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Faculty turns focus to grading

By Jason F. Siegel
News Editor

In a report recently completed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading, a variety of non-binding recommendations to reduce and track the effects of grade inflation at Middlebury College were suggested, including the publishing of the median grade of a course next to a student's grade, the elimination of the "A+" and the education of new students and faculty alike in regards to grading practices at Middlebury.

The Committee, chaired by Associate Professor of Biology Andrea Lloyd, convened throughout the fall to look at extensive data collected by the Registrar, the Admissions Office and the Student Educational Affairs Committee to identify which factors actually contributed to grade inflation. It also spoke extensively with members of the Career Services Office (CSO), Pre-Law Adviser Murray Dry and Pre-Med Adviser Arlinda Wickland to gauge the impact of a student's GPA on post-graduate employment. For the faculty's opinions on the culture of grading, the group used notes from groups formed at the Bread Loaf faculty meeting in September. Though many of the factors were already presumed true by the faculty, there were also many results that surprised even the members of the Committee.

Perhaps the most unexpected finding of the Committee was that the mode of assessment of a class, i.e. papers versus exams, was largely responsible for the frequency of "A's" in a given course. When controlling for size and level of the course, courses that graded mostly

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Vlad Lodoaba

Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah, Vermont State Liquor Inspector Mike Davidson and Middlebury Chief of Police Tom Hanley lead a forum on the alcohol policy at Middlebury College on Jan. 19.

Alcohol takes center stage at College forum

By Kathryn Flagg
News Editor

In the second of two meetings scheduled for this month, Middlebury College administrators, faculty, staff and students joined community members in discussing the issue of alcohol on and off campus. The forum, designed to discuss the social life on campus in the context of College policies and enforcement protocols, featured a panel that included Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah, Middlebury Chief of Police Tom Hanley and Mike Davidson of the Vermont Department of Liquor Control.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz welcomed the crowd — substantially larger than that present for the town hall meeting earlier this month — and moderated the evening's discussion, but the brunt of questions and concerns were directed to the gathered panel. While each panel member briefly explained his or her job and its relationship to alcohol on campus, the majority of the two-hour meeting was devoted to fielding questions and student comments.

Attacking the Liquor Law

Many students expressed dissatisfaction with the new interpretation of state liquor laws that tjeu believe severely altered the social life on campus by hindering the ability of social houses to host open parties. Comments directed to Davidson questioned the wisdom of the new policy.

Davidson quickly pointed out that the College, in altering its policies, was bringing itself up to speed with state law.

"In no way could [the College] endorse underage drinking," he said. He referred to the "infamous guest list" as an avenue the

See Forum, page 6

A CLOSER LOOK: College planning makes progress

NEWS ANALYSIS

By Liz Campbell
Staff Writer

With the release of the Strategic Planning Report on Jan. 4, Middlebury College is entering a significant new phase of development. Over the course of J-Term, the Planning Steering Committee has opened discussion to students, faculty, staff and town members to encourage greater participation from the College community in the planning of the College. With 62 pages and over 80 recommendations, the report has generated both criticism and concern regarding Middlebury's future.

The Committee and the President's Staff hosted three open meetings last week to encourage the community to voice questions, criticism and approval regarding the report. Despite high attendance and participation from faculty and staff, very few students attended the meetings.

"We had over 50 people at the first open meeting, over 40 at the second one- and under 20 at the evening session," said Dean of Planning and Secretary of the College John Emerson. "The level and quality of the conversations were superb — everything that we had hoped for. Student attendance was low, [but] those present attributed that to Winter Term."

The most substantial recommendations in the report include increasing socio-economic diversity within the student body, reducing the number of students admitted for spring enrollment, consolidating distribution requirements and completing commons infrastructure. These significant changes to the admissions, academic and social aspects of the College have led some faculty members and students to wonder if the College is fundamentally changing its identity and outlook.

"As far as the whole plan is concerned,

See Work continues, page 6

Having a Ball

Vlad Lodoaba

Celebrating snow after a long warm spell, Alec Weltzien '08 and friends pelt each other with snowballs on Battell Beach on Monday. Other students celebrated by sledding down Mead Chapel hill.

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY CAROLINE S. STAUFFER AND JEANINE BUZALI

Student injured in on-campus auto accident

Elizabeth DiCioccio '06 sustained injuries in the torso area after the rear tire of a box truck ran over her on the Atwater B West Sidewalk on Wednesday, Jan. 18, according to an incident report compiled by Public Safety.

Witnesses were Russell Johanson '06 and Teaching Assistant Michela Ronzani.

The truck, used for recycling and operated by Chad Huntley, material recovery facility worker, had backed up approximately 100 feet before making contact, according to Public Safety. The truck's backup lights and alarm were determined to have been functioning properly at the time of the collision. The pedestrians had come from Atwater Hall A and were using the sidewalk to connect to Hall B.

DiCioccio was transported to Porter Hospital and later to Fletcher Allen Health Care Center in Burlington. She is expected to recover fully from her injuries with no permanent damage, according to friends.

Patrol Officer Ken Hawkins of the Middlebury Police Department is in charge of investigating the incident and plans to have an incident report completed by Friday after speaking with all parties involved.

Four community members honored

On Jan. 11, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz conferred Citizens' Medals to Al Stiles, Cynthia and Roth "T" Tall, and the Rev. Paul B. Bortz, recognizing their work and dedication to strengthening the Addison County community as a whole.

Since Middlebury's bicentennial year in 2000, the College has presented these annual awards to local residents. Thirty Citizens' Medals have been presented to residents of Middlebury and the surrounding towns for their selfless contribution to the community.

This year's recipients have been active in helping the community in different areas ranging from participation in environmental and spiritual organizations to forming improved reading programs in local schools. Members of the College community submitted nominations for the 2005 Citizens' Medals, and President Liebowitz and a committee of faculty and staff members selected the winners.

Fleishman '04.5 Award solicits nominations

The Jason Fleishman '04.5 Memorial Fund is a fund created to remember Jason Fleishman, a Feb who died unexpectedly the day after the Feb graduation ceremony. Describing him as a vivacious, outstanding student, his friends established this award in his memory.

Among the prominent figures in the development in the fund are Dean of Wonnacott Commons Matt Longman '91 and ADA Coordinator Jodi Litchfield. Litchfield and Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson honor several Febs each year who exemplify the strengths and positive traits characteristic of Fleishman. The College is currently founding the lump sum in order to establish the fund, and gifts can be given directly to the fund in order to accelerate its endowment. Once the fund is fully established, the interests from it will serve as monetary awards to the selected Febs.

Fleishman was a well-liked member of the College community, and the College community has expressed a desire to commemorate his positive traits by honoring those who share them.

CORRECTION

The Jan. 12 issue of *The Middlebury Campus* failed to properly attribute a photograph of President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz. The photograph accompanied an the article "Liebowitz attends D.C. summit: Bush unveils initiative to boost language studies." *The Campus* regrets this mistake.

Admissions numbers climb

File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Members of the admissions office sift through a record 6, 152 applications for the Middlebury College class of 2010.

By Lizz Herron-Sweet
Staff Writer

This year the Admissions Office saw a 21 percent increase in Early Decision (ED) I applications and a comparable increase in ED II, which means that almost 150 more high school seniors than last year pegged Middlebury as their top college choice. Of the 6,152 applicants for the class of 2010, an unprecedented 900 more than last year, 195 have been accepted ED I and 270 more are vying for ED II spots. In comparison toWilliams' mere five percent increase in ED applicants and Harvard's eight percent decrease, the vast increase at Middlebury has proven to be a special, albeit welcome challenge to the Admissions Office.

Over the past two years, 70 percent of national college and universities have reported an increase in applications, but Middlebury appears to have surpassed the trend this year: Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett says the College's numbers "appear to be significantly higher than our competitors', so it's unlikely that it's solely a function of more students applying to more colleges."

Although counselors have interviewed about the same number of prospective students and traveled no more than in years past, several factors have combined to give the College "higher visibility and name recognition in the United States and around the world," according to Admissions Counselor Val Demong '66. Among these are Middlebury's appearance as *Newsweek*'s Hottest School for International Studies, the number eight ranking for top liberal arts colleges and the top rank for "Professors that bring material to life" in *U.S. News and World Report* and the new affiliation with the Monterey Institute in California.

"Over the last 10 years or so Middlebury has only continued to be associated with stronger and stronger schools," said Demong. "Over time, our 'overlap' schools include more of the Ivies, for instance."

While Middlebury works its way up the charts, Demong repeatedly sees visitors "blown away" by the beauty of Middlebury and the spirit pervading the campus; in the past decade, the additions of John McCardell, Jr., Bicentennial Hall, the New Library, the Center for the Arts and the athletic complex, among others, have made the school even more attractive for prospective students.

Clagett, after 21 years at Harvard's Admissions Office, pointed to "our well-known interdisciplinary programs, our emphasis on a broad global perspective for our students, our unusually high international enrollment, our commitment to the arts and to the sciences and our extraordinary physical plant" as reasons for the College's current popularity. He added that high school students are especially drawn to the more international aspects now "because there has never been a greater need for a thorough understanding of the challenges confronting the world."

SCCOCC voices discontent

By Thomas C. Drescher
Managing Editor

A chain of e-mails begun last week by Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) JS Woodward '06 and sent out to Student Government Association (SGA) members and select College administrators and Campus editors has prompted concerns regarding discord within the SGA's ranks.

In his initial e-mail, Woodward accused SGA President Eli Berman '07.5 of "grossly and dictatorially overstepping [his] bounds" by mandating attendance at the annual SGA-Faculty Council-Staff Council dinner and forcing some student leaders to miss their regularly scheduled meetings for what has become a "pompous and superficial bureaucratic function."

Woodward also asserted that the tone set by Berman within the SGA has been "combative, harassing, repressive and unsupportive" since September, and expressed his opposition to procedural and functional changes Berman has made within the SGA cabinet. According to Woodward's e-mail, Berman has "made the improvement of the public image of the SGA a priority over its functional operation." More specifically, he also cited Berman's repeated failure to send out meeting agenda documents on time as an impeachable offense.

Woodward's e-mail prompted a series of responses from other SGA cabinet members.

SGA Director of Campus Diversity Lauren Curatolo '06 replied first to Woodward's e-mail, asserting that the opinions he had presented were not necessarily shared by other SGA representatives. She went on to express her support for Berman, and observed that Woodward's comments seem to be indicative of "personal vendettas" and do not represent a constructive approach to resolving the issues at hand.

As an SGA veteran, Chief of Staff Marcus Hughes '06 prefaced his e-mail response by observing that "the last four and a half months have been the most productive time the SGA has had in quite awhile." He said that he thought it was "irresponsible" of Woodward "to vent [his] frustrations via mass e-mail," adding that the SCCOCC's accusations were "far off the mark."

In subsequent e-mail responses, SGA Press Secretary Adam Irish '08 and Co-Director of Alumni Relations Eric Hoest '07 both took issue with Woodward's method of dissemination, asserting that the issues he raised should have been brought up internally, not in a forum that included two administrators — Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson and Center for Campus Activities and Leadership Director Doug Adams — and two Campus editors.

Irish also said that Woodward has exhibited a "disparaging and negative outlook on [Berman's] administration" from the start. He went on to describe the "overt hostility" and "caustic commentary" that has characterized Woodward's participation at meetings, suggesting that a more cooperative and candid approach to relations with Berman would be more prudent in terms of tackling what he acknowledged were "legitimate concerns."

To this end, Woodward stated that he was very pleased with the outcome of a recent conciliatory meeting with Berman. I don't at all believe that conflict is a bad thing, he said, especially when it forces reflection.

"Consequently," Woodward added, "I feel that the spring will be a more productive and meaningful season for the SGA than was the fall."

Berman also expressed his hope that recent disputes would not prohibit the SGA from pursuing its tentative agenda, which includes a comprehensive transportation initiative and a possible reexamination of the College's alcohol policy. Berman added that he hopes to "clarify" the SGA's bureaucracy and institute changes that will allow the SGA to more accurately reflect the commons-based social layout of the College.

"I'm not going to let personal issues get in the way," Berman said. "I'm positive we're going to have a successful spring semester."

Two degrees campaign warms Midd's heart

By Haley Gilbert
Staff Writer

The results of a survey conducted this past fall by the Sunday Night Group, the environmental group on campus responsible for the Two Degrees Campaign, demonstrated that 72 percent of students surveyed support lowering the thermostat set point from 70 to 68 degrees throughout the winter to cut energy spending and reduce carbon emissions, but due to an error in communication, the implementation of the policy was pushed back.

Thomas Hand '06 and Caitlin Matthews '07, leaders of Middlebury's campaign, stated that there was a miscommunication between the students and administration, causing some delay on the commencement of the campaign.

According to Dean of the College Tim Spears, the confusion was over the buildings to be affected. Ideally, all buildings would implement the change. However, the College cannot guarantee comfort for its staff in some buildings if the temperature were lower.

The administration hesitated to lower the temperature in all campus buildings because of the unpredictable thermostats in some of the older buildings. While parts of a building may be set comfortably at 68 degrees, other areas may suffer low or high temperatures due to the older heating systems in some of the College's buildings. Honoring the enthusiastic results of the student survey, the administration has voiced its support for the student body's desire to be more energy efficient, and so the residence halls will be the first to see a temperature drop.

These students are to be commended for pushing this along. The administration is excited to get behind the students. We admire their commitment to the environment.

—Dean of the College Tim Spears

Spears said the temperature drop would go into effect at the start of the 2006 spring term in all residence buildings. A similar initiative was recently launched at Bowdoin College, whose community-issued campaign to lower temperatures from 72 to 68 degrees has generated positive feedback.

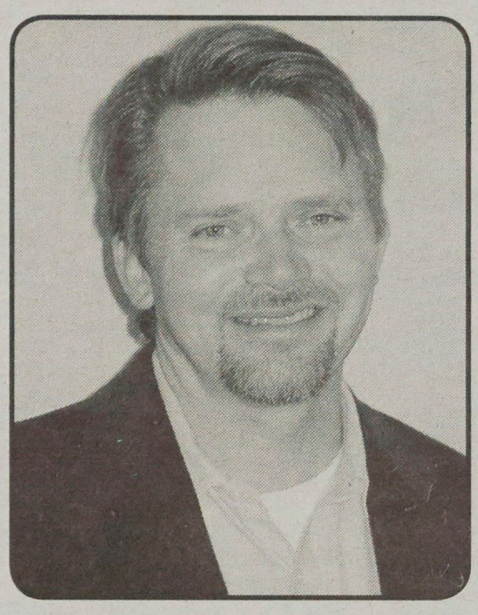
The campaign has been underway since 2003 when Hand came up with the idea. Throughout the fall, the campaign surveyed students, proposed the idea to the Student Government Association and the administration, and worked with Facilities Management on the technicalities of lowering the temperature. Currently, Hand and Matthews are working closely with Mike McKenna, vice-president of communications, to present the campaign to the campus community. This outreach campaign aims to generate positive attitudes towards the goal of the campaign.

"We want the community to be enthusiastic about the campaign and to own the idea," said McKenna.

According to the Sunday Night Group, students should not buy space heaters in reaction to the new drop in temperature. This defeats the idea of saving energy, while violating fire safety codes. Students must recognize that this campaign is the result of a campus reputable for its environmental stewardship. The campaign is, according to the group and College officials, a student initiative with administrative support.

"These students are to be commended for pushing this along," said Spears. "The administration is excited to get behind the students. We admire their commitment to the environment."

Discriminatory policies spark symposium



From top: Sharon Alexander, Kent Greenfield and L. Kinvin Wroth, courtesy.

By Caroline S. Stauffer
Editor-in-Chief

In response to issues raised last spring after a member of the United States Marine Corps was permitted to recruit on campus, the Dean of Student Affairs Office has organized a conference entitled "Don't Ask, Don't Tell and the Solomon Amendment: Practices and Purposes" to take place Friday, Jan. 26.

The Community Council and the faculty each passed resolutions following Captain David Doucette's February 2005 visit to campus. The resolutions from both organizations recommended eliminating a clause in the College recruitment policy that permits employers who cannot sign the College's recruiting form because of discriminating employment policies to recruit on campus after giving a presentation explaining and answering questions about the policy. In May, after consulting with the Board of Trustees and administrators at other colleges in the NESCAC, President Ronald D. Liebowitz announced that the College's recruitment policy would remain unchanged, a move that generated some controversy among members of the community.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Karen Guttentag expressed hope that Friday's conference would educate the College community on some of the issues raised in the spring of 2005.

"Although members of the community clearly had strong feelings about this issue, many of these discussions tended to conflate four distinct policies — Middlebury's nondiscrimination policy, Middlebury's campus recruitment policy, 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' and the Solomon Amendment — into one amorphous object," she said. "We have organized this conference in hopes of enhancing the quality of our community-wide discussions of these issues, and in particular, elevating our understanding of the ban on gays in the military, the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy that guides its enforcement and the Solomon Amendment."

The conflict between colleges, many of which only allow recruiters that pledge not to discriminate in any manner, including by sexual orientation, and the government's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy toward gays in the military has received national attention because, according to the 1997 Solomon Amendment, "institutions of higher education that prevent Reserve Officer Training Corp access or military recruiting on campus can be subjected to the denial of grants and contracts from the Department of Defense, Department of Education and certain other departments and agencies."

The Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights (FAIR), a group of law schools and professors, sued Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on the grounds that the Solomon Amendment is unconstitutional. The decision is being considered by the Supreme Court following the Third Circuit Court of Appeals preliminary injunction against the enforcement of the Solomon Amendment.

Vermont Law School (VLS), which was one of three law schools in the country to forgo federal grants in order to continue to bar military recruiters from campus, hosted a conference entitled "Serving with Pride: Gays in the Military" in early October.

Guttentag and colleagues invited Sharon Alexander, along with Kent Greenfield and Gerald Walpin to Middlebury after hearing them speak at the VLS Conference.

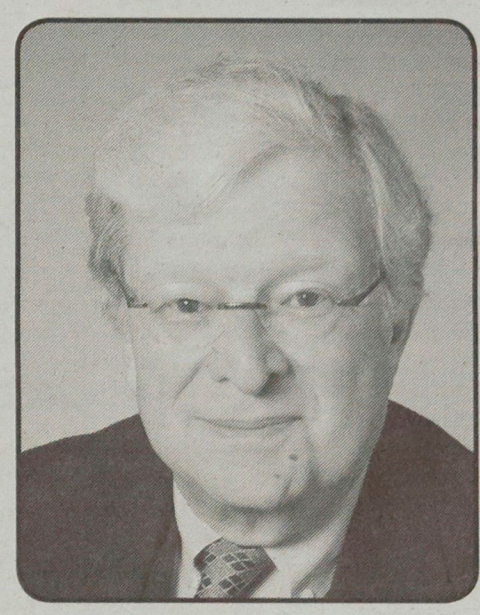
"It was an excellent and informative conference, and we thought our community would benefit tremendously from hearing these experts," Guttentag said. "Each represents organizations involved in high-impact pending litigation on 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' and the Solomon Amendment."

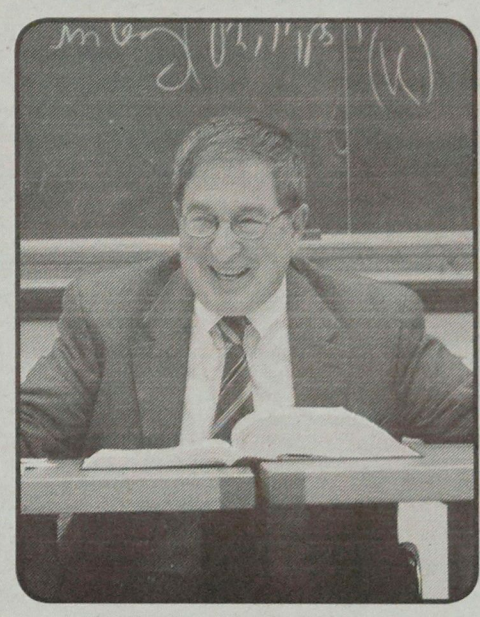
In selecting speakers for the conference, Guttentag said the organizers strove for equilibrium. "Ultimately, our goal in selecting speakers was to provide a balanced array of perspectives and diverse areas of expertise so that audience members would emerge feeling educated and literate about these policies and their nuances," she said.

The conference, which will take place in Charles A. Dana Auditorium, is split into two parts. From 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. Alexander, deputy director for policy at the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network and John Allen Williams, professor of political science at Loyola University in Chicago will give a brief history of pertinent issues and answer questions from the audience.

"It is important to note that part one of the program is not a 'pro-con' format or a debate," Guttentag said. "Both speakers are discussing different aspects of the ban on gays in the military."

The second part of the conference, scheduled for a 2:30 p.m. start, will consist of a debate and discussion on the constitutionality of the Solomon Amendment featuring four expert panelists and will also include questions from the audience. The panelists for this portion of the conference are Boston College Law School Professor Greenfield, who is the founder and president of FAIR, Gerald Walpin, from the board of directors at the Center for Individual Rights, Professor and former President of the VLS L. Kinvin Wroth and Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science at Middlebury College Murray Dry, an authority on American constitutional law.





From top: John Allen Williams, Gerald Walpin and Murray Dry, courtesy.

Students ditching land lines for cell phones

By Jason F. Siegel
News Editor

Since the beginning of the academic year, fewer and fewer students have set up their voicemail accounts and are increasingly depending on their cellular phones, a trend that is worrying many College departments who depend on voicemail to communicate important messages.

According to Peggy Fischel, director of Telephone Services, an increasing number of students come to campus already accustomed to the freedom afforded by cell phones, and the fact that the campus has relatively good reception permits them to continue their cell phone habits. As a result, long-distance service provided by the College is no longer as popular as it once was. However, due to the low overhead costs of the service and for the benefit of those students without cell phones, the College "will continue to provide long-distance service to those students who want it," said Fischel.

One office particularly concerned with the recent drop in voicemail usage is the Parton Health Center. According to its director, Terry Jenny, the office has had difficulty reaching students whose voicemail is not set up. When a caller tries to reach an extension with no configured voicemail box, there is no way to verify that he or she has reached the correct extension. In addition, many students report that they simply do not check their voicemail.

Jenny also stated that e-mail was not a viable option for the Health Center, because there is no address for the office as a whole. As a result, e-mail becomes an injustifiably consuming endeavor. In exceptional circumstances, a nurse will use his or her personal e-mail account to reach a student, or failing that, even call the commons dean. "We wouldn't be calling if it weren't acutely important," said Jenny.

To cope with the new habits of students, the College is considering a new system that links e-mail and voicemail. With this system, said Fischel, community members would be able to check all their messages from a single device, be it a computer, a telephone or a cell phone. "Students would not be wedded to a campus telephone to retrieve campus voicemail messages, but faculty, staff and off-campus parties could more easily leave a voicemail message and be reasonably assured that it would be listened to," Fischel said. There are no plans to stop providing telephone services to individual rooms.

Both Fischel and Jenny urged students to activate their voicemail boxes as soon as possible.

Ilhan Kim

Chris Bohorquez and Jeff Olson, both '07, chat on their cell phones in Proctor Dining Hall.

Disappearing dishware plagues Dining Services

By Laura Barrett
Staff Writer

"If we are a leader in environmental campaigns, this problem best be a local, dirty secret," said Matthew Biette, director of Dining Services, discussing the problem of dishes disappearing from the dining halls. This year he anticipates spending over $40,000 on replacing china. According to Biette, as much as 90 percent of that cost might be passed on to students as dorm damage fees at the end of the year.

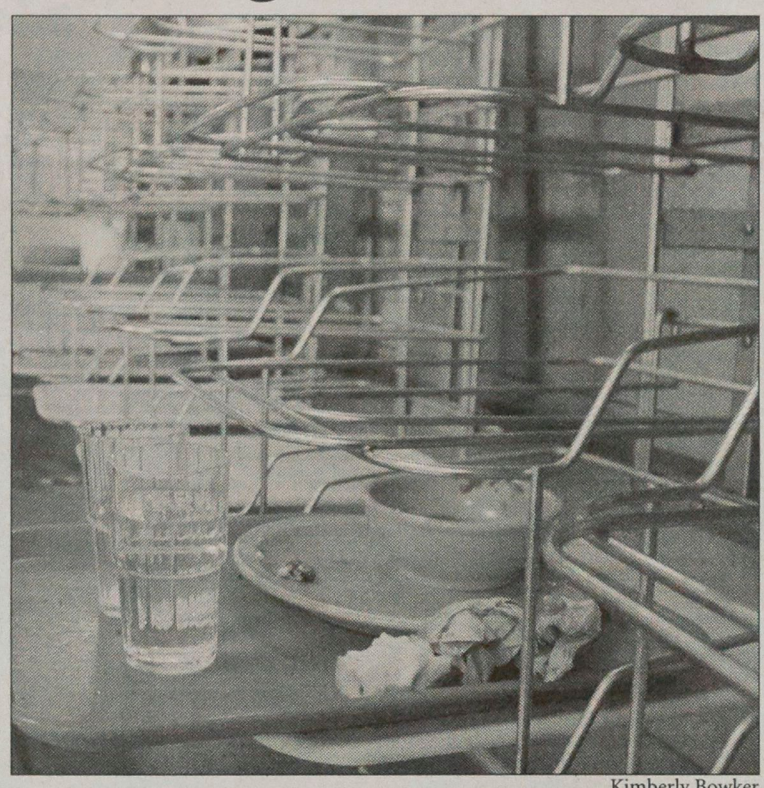
This year's rash of disappearing dishes follows a pattern that has beleaguered Dining Services for years.

Although this is partly a financial concern, there are health and environmental issues tied into this problem as well. "Some of the stuff we get back has been out for weeks. They're often so contaminated that the people picking them up could get [sick]," Biette noted. Cleaning them is another arduous task. "We have to use caustic chemicals. There's a question of how you soak it, do you bleach it, what bins do you use? And then you have to ask, 'What's going down the drain?'"

Past campaigns to reduce the number of dishes taken from the dining halls have had varying amounts of success. The dish reclamation project was "a big negative," said Biette. "We put out piles of empty dish racks, right in people's way, and they just walked around them." Worse, Biette said, the campaign "gave students license to take dishes and not return them."

One of the more successful efforts was simply not putting out any dishes to replace the ones that had been taken. Juniors and seniors remember drinking out of bowls in Proctor two years ago because there were no glasses. This, according to Biette, made students quite angry, but it also motivated students to return the china and glassware that they had taken.

Another campaign that Dining Services organized took place over Fall Family Weekend in 2003. Dining Services put out a large table with empty dish racks and signs with statistics such as the number of glasses that had disappeared so far that school year. This table was located at the end of the buffet tables at the big community picnic. "That hit home, literally," Biette quipped.



Kimberly Bowker

A lonely dish heads to the Proctor Dining Hall dish room while an estimated $40,000 worth of dishware is disappearing from the dining halls.

Weybridge residents, the only residential students who are not on the meal plan, were behind another extremely successful effort. They collected dishes that had been left around campus and left close to 1,000 pieces of china and cups lying in front of the entrance to Ross.

Biette did not know exactly which campaigns have been the most successful. Certainly, the number of dishes taken from the dining hall has decreased. In the 2003-2004 academic year, about $80,000 were spent replacing dishes. Last school year, that cost was cut almost in half, and projections for this year indicate that spending on dishes will be approximately the same as last year.

Many students admit to taking dishes occasionally, such as Dan Harburg '08. "I've taken a few mugs. They generally sit in the kitchen on our floor. They get passed around. I've never taken bowls or anything like that." Others, like John Lee '06, claim, "I've never taken a dish out of a dining hall."

Eli Berman '07.5, president of the SGA, agrees with Biette that the College is spending too much money on replacing dishes. "One or two students' educations could be paid for with the money we spend on dishes," Berman noted. He also affirmed, "Some people have heard that the Recycling Center brings dishes back to the dining hall, and so they throw them away."

Despite his stance that "students are culpable," even Berman admits to taking dishes sometimes. "I have one dish in my room right now." He promised to return his.

Honor code up for faculty review

By Annie Onishi
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Honor Code, the document obligating every student to uphold his or her academic integrity, is undergoing its triennial update this year. The Community Council approved the recommendations made by the Honor Code Review Committee (HCRC) at its last meeting, and the changes will go to the faculty for further approval.

The HCRC is composed of a dean, a faculty member and three students. Professor of History Don Wyatt, the faculty member on the Committee said, "Students represented the majority voice in the writing of the report [because of the make-up of the Committee]. The HCRC met on a weekly basis for a period of seven months, from October 2004 to April 2005. During that period, much input was received from students, especially student members of the Academic and the Community Judicial Boards."

The Honor Code is not undergoing any drastic changes, and the general principles of academic integrity and honesty will remain constant. According to Wyatt, "There are only two [changes] that directly affect students." He also stressed, "The changes in the Honor Code language remain recommendations at this point."

The changes to which Wyatt refers are slight amendments to language. Wyatt said, "The first is a relatively slight modification of handbook language concerning the submission of the same paper or a paper that is substantially the same for more than one course. This practice is already forbidden under our rules, constituting plagiarism and thus a violation of the Honor Code, unless a student has secured the consent of the instructors involved." The current language in the Honor Code reads: "...without prior consent of each faculty member involved." The proposed change reads: "...without prior written consent of both instructors involved."

The other recommended change that would directly affect students and their academic lives is the change regarding the reporting of academic dishonesty. The current language says that "anyone in the college community who is aware of an instance of academic dishonesty is morally obligated to report it to the Academic Judicial Board." Wyatt said, "The proposed amended language would add: 'Students also are, however, strongly encouraged to confront their peers at the first opportunity to do so.'"

In accordance with its bylaws, the Honor Code is reviewed and re-approved every three years. Wyatt said, "This reaffirmation last occurred in 2001. Needless to say, that process is running somewhat behind schedule this time."

The next step in the process is faculty approval. Wyatt and Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson said that the vote will occur at the next faculty meeting in February. This vote is not really an opportunity for criticisms, suggestions or additions of any sort. Wyatt said of the process, "Editing of any kind immediately before a faculty vote is discouraged. The Honor Code Review Committee's report has already been extensively vetted by Community Council."

According to Wyatt, the Honor Code has been a staple at Middlebury College since the 1960s. President James Armstrong instated the Code after his arrival from Princeton University, whose long-standing honor code Armstrong "much admired." Wyatt said, "Armstrong moved to install an honor code because he believed the demonstration of honesty to be a fundamental hallmark of students' taking responsibility for their own educations and lives."

SGA tackles transport, alcohol

By Chris Knapp
Staff Writer

On Sunday, Jan. 15, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz met with the Student Government Association (SGA) to review with his December meeting with the Board of Trustees, and to answer questions and address concerns members of the SGA presented. At a meeting the following week, the SGA further discussed their conversation with President Liebowitz, as well as their own goals for the rest of J-Term and the spring semester.

Most immediate among these goals is the implementation of a College-sponsored transportation service. SGA President Eli Berman '07.5 and cabinet member Jon Warnow '06.5 presented a bill to the SGA that included provisions for seven separate initiatives, among them a Saturday shuttle to Burlington, a weekend shuttle to Sugarbush and Mad River Glen ski areas and monthly shuttles to Montreal, Boston and New York.

The bill, entitled "Responsible Transportation Solutions: Moving Middlebury into the Future," also included an overhaul of the web-based ride board on Middlebury's Web site, a revision and expansion of the yellow-bike program, the purchase of a biodiesel bus to serve as the Snow Bowl shuttle and a mandate to match with SGA funds the College's contribution to the overhead cost of operating the Snow Bowl shuttle.

At last Sunday's meeting, a member of the SGA senate presented the results of a survey that gauged the student body's transportation needs. The results indicated strongly that the proposed system would be thoroughly utilized.

Students and other members of the community, speaking to *The Middlebury Campus*, responded positively to the prospect of an affordable way to get to and from Middlebury. "I'm an international student, so it's really hard for me to get around," said Hiba Fakhoury '09. "I think it's great that the SGA is trying to provide transportation for students."

Not all members of the SGA agreed with each of the programs Berman and Warnow's bill proposed, and some suggested that it would be more effective as seven separate bills. In any case, according to Berman, a shuttle to Burlington is hoped to be made available through the Addison County Transit Resources the first Saturday of the spring semester, for the likely fee of $3 each way.

The SGA also addressed the issue of the College's policies regarding alcohol. Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson, speaking at the Jan. 15 meeting, cited what the Administration perceived as an increased presence on campus of the Middlebury Police Department (MPD), noting that this was due in part to the MPD's filling of the previously unmanned 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. patrol shift. Additionally, Hanson said it had been suggested to her that students had become more brazen in their defiance of open-container laws since it ceased to be an offense punishable by alcohol citation, thus inviting more attention from the police force.

President Liebowitz noted the success of an open meeting discussing the role of alcohol in social life on campus, while the SGA articulated the need to work within the parameters established by the new liquor inspector.

"Endlessly criticizing a system that the College itself is powerless to change isn't going to get us anywhere," one SGA member said. "We need to start working within the system in order to facilitate a social environment that is both safe and satisfying to students, as well as in compliance with the state's expectations."

To that end, Andrew Carnabuci '06 presented to the SGA a proposal for another College-sponsored transportation service that would provide rides from off-campus parties. While providing underage students with rides to parties where alcohol is being served is legally seen to be enabling those students to drink and therefore is not feasible under current Vermont state law, the College could potentially provide rides from these parties back to campus without assuming liability for drinking students had already done off campus, according to both Carnabuci and President Liebowitz. Carnabuci is working with the four other members of the SGA to investigate the various options for instituting such a service, and he hopes that eventually they will compose a bill that would make it a reality.

"As President Liebowitz said at the meeting," Carnabuci said, "the College is going to keep at least 60 students off-campus, so this is going to continue to be a problem. Why not do something now to solve it?"

He added, "This is an entirely grassroots movement, coming from the students upward. If students want to see something done about this, they need to be banging on the doors at Old Chapel, making sure it's known how important it is."

Berman expressed concern that many students still regard the SGA's effectuality with skepticism, but remains enthusiastic. "We are starting to hear from more people, and hopefully that trend will continue."

"I guess I don't really think that much about what the SGA is doing. I tend to have a lot of other things on my mind," said Ken Nakamura '06.5. He added, "It certainly seems like they have a lot on their plates, though. And they seem to be doing a really good job keeping up with it." Overall, Nakamura said, he was impressed with the SGA's efforts.

File Photo/Chris Heinrich

Eli Berman '07.5, center, leads a meeting of the SGA earlier this month. On the agenda was the SGA's new transportation initiative.

public safety log

JANUARY 12, 2006 TO JANUARY 22, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
1/12/06	1:49 a.m.	Vandalism	Light/Wall	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
1/15/06	6:30 p.m.	Theft	N/A	Allen Hall	Referred to MPD
1/20/06	5:30 p.m.	Theft	Jacket	Atwater	No Suspects
1/20/06	2:25 a.m.	Vandalism	Wall Lights	Hadley	No Suspects
1/21/06	3:08 a.m.	Intoxicated Person	Health Center	Costeau	Referred to Commons Dean
1/21/06	3:10 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Urination	Battell	Open
1/21/06	11:31 p.m.	Intoxicated Person	Health Center	Hepburn	Porter
1/21/06	11:20 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Brackett (Tavern)	Referred to Commons Dean
1/21/06	6:30 p.m.	Theft	Jacket	Ross	No Suspects
1/21/06	12:57 a.m.	Intoxicated Person	Disrespect of College Official	Battell Beach	Referred to Commons Dean
1/22/06	1:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Wall Light	Milliken	No Suspects
1/22/06	12:20 a.m.	Intoxicated Person	Student	Palmer	Referred to Commons Dean

Between Jan. 3 and Jan. 22, the Department of Public Safety reported 14 incidents of possession of alcohol by minors. Offenses occured in Atwater, Ross, Prescott (ADP), Pearsons, outside, Battell, Fletcher and Gifford. All offenders were referred to Commons deans.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY JASON F. SIEGEL

Hamilton's water remains polluted

At Hamilton College, recent tests show that both the quarterly and annual levels of a disinfectant byproduct believed to contribute to pregnancy complications and cancer are still above the limit set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The level of these chemicals, known as THMs, varies with the season, and reaches its nadir in late March. Their unusually high presence is due to Hamilton's location at the end of a water pipeline, which means the water is exposed to the chemicals widely used in the region. Exacerbating the problem is the fact that Hamilton has its own water pipeline and storage system in which the water sits for an even longer time, becoming especially bad during student breaks when there is little movement.

Officials were encouraged by results of unofficial tests that showed that after flushing out the system in early January, the chemical levels dropped to about half the maximum allowance. They had attributed higher than normal results to unusually high temperatures in July and August.

— The Hamilton Spectator

UCLA alumnus bribes Bruins

Andrew Jones, a conservative alumnus of UCLA, rescinded his offer to pay students who would tape the lectures of any of 30 professors and hand the recordings to him along with lecture notes, after being informed that the students would be in direct violation of school policy. The practice would also be an infraction of California state eavesdropping laws.

Jones continues to solicit the tapes without any offer of payment, which according to university officials, is still a violation of the policies.

Jones founded the Bruin Alumni Association to target exclusively liberal professors whose opinions he found to be too far to the left. Since the announcement of his plan, at least three members of the Association's board have resigned.

— The New York Times

Blacks in higher education show uneven progress

According to a recent report published by the *Journal of Blacks in Higher Education*, black students have made steady gains in college and graduate enrollment, while losing ground in law and medical schools. Little change was seen in the number of black faculty across the nation.

The report, which touts itself as a 10-year report card, shows statistics from 1995, 2000 and 2005 in categories such as "Percentage of 18- to 24- Year Old Blacks Enrolled in College" and "Total Enrollments of Blacks in Graduate School." The most significant gains were in enrollments across the nation, as the number of black people registered in institutions of higher education climbed in nearly all nationwide categories.

Despite higher enrollment in professional schools, there has been a significant drop in enrollment in law and medical schools. This could be due to a higher number of black students in business school, as a greater percentage of black people become entrepreneurs in the United States.

—Journal of Blacks in Higher Education

Report addresses inflation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

based on papers were more likely to have higher numbers of "A's," a difference that varied little even across divisions. In addition, small classes have a much higher proportion of "A's," and with some exceptions, the same is true of upper-level courses.

Another problem addressed in the report is the different values that students and faculty attach to "B's." Though faculty might believe that getting a "B" is in fact a good grade, conversations with Dry, Wickland and the CSO revealed, at least anecdotally, that potential employers and graduate schools place a very high premium on "A's," which puts students' and professors' values of grades in conflict. The report also states that the number of incoming students graduating in the top 10 percent of their high school class has steadily increased over the last 10 years, meaning that there might well be large numbers of students who come to Middlebury having never received a "B."

The report had six principal recommendations, which will then have to be approved by the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC). The most noteworthy proposal was to add the median grade of each course next to the student's grade on the transcript along with the percentage of classes in which a student's grade was above the median. This provides more information on what the grade means and contextualizes lower grades in certain divisions. In a similar vein, the Ad Hoc Committee recommended the elimination of the "A+" in favor of a citation system in which a professor could put a citation next to any grade to comment on exceptionally good or bad work. In this way the "A" would be strengthened as being the highest possible grade and a professor could explain varied performance in a course.

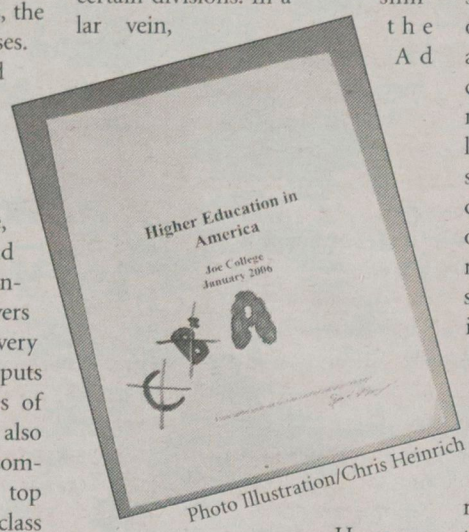


Photo Illustration/Chris Heinrich

Two other recommendations included proposals to educate new students and faculty respectively about grading at Middlebury. Part of this education would include definitions in the College Handbook about what "A" through "F" work represents, as well as tracking the success of recent graduates to give students a good idea about the relative significance of the GPA. For new faculty, many of whom come directly from large universities, there would be a section of the New Faculty Seminar during J-Term devoted to discussion of grading practices. "Grading is a really important thing that we do," said Lloyd, "but we don't talk about it enough with our students or with each other."

Another recommendation was to eliminate the need for faculty to file a report when a student in his or her class earns a "D." Currently each faculty member must do this each time he or she gives a "D" or an "F," though the Committee recommends that this change since a "D" is still a passing grade. The final recommendation was to reconvene the Ad Hoc Committee in five years to re-evaluate the grading practices at Middlebury.

The report is now with the EAC and will be released to the general community some time in early spring.

Forum examines alcohol policies, enforcement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

College pursued so as to allow students to "still have social interactions without violating the law."

Students, however, continued to voice their opposition to last fall's policy changes.

"Even from spring of 2005 to this fall I've seen a dramatic shift in the social life on this campus," said Jessie Singleton '08.5. "Because the College is coming up to speed with this law, the social life is moving off campus."

"There's a drinking culture at this school," Singleton continued. "We're in rural, isolated Vermont. We go to a difficult institution. I think that that's, perhaps, inevitable."

Other students raised concerns that this "shift" in the College's social scene is fostering dangerous drinking habits among the student body, encouraging students to drink heavily behind closed doors and to attend off-campus parties.

"We're watching our friends come back in cars that had drunk drivers," said one student, worried about the cost of increased off-campus drinking.

"Though you are enforcing the law," said another, "you're putting students in a position that jeopardizes their safety."

The Police Perspective

Students also directed questions to Hanley, who was on hand from the Middlebury Police Department to volunteer his perspective on alcohol on campus.

"This year," he said, "we've had an increase of alcohol-fueled events." Hanley noted that this increase in contacts has been coupled with a new shift in complaints and interactions. In previous years, said Hanley, the majority of police run-ins with College students were precipitated by complaints from townspeople in residential areas.

This year, however, contacts have been "predominantly pedestrian" — a stark departure from earlier trends. Hanley pointed to the "College Street corridor" as a particularly troublesome spot. This year, he said, students have kicked in windows and committed small thefts.

"We found an intoxicated student lying on the sidewalk with a bottle of booze," he said. When there are problems, Hanley said, "The squeaky wheel will get the grease."

Hanley noted that he is "not naïve enough to think that students never drank before." The difference this year, he clarified, is that the police department is "seeing more numbers of students walking around with bottles in the middle of the road."

In response to student concerns regarding the number of contacts this year, Hanley frankly remarked that the police are acting under a state mandate. "If we find somebody who is intoxicated we can't turn our back on them," he said. "Not to act exposes us to a lot of liability."

Hanley also noted, however, that alcohol-fueled contacts with students distract the police department from other pressing law enforcement requirements in town — including drugs, assault, burglaries and vandalism. Transporting a student to the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility, said Hanley, requires eight man-hours from the department — time he said could spent in other arenas.

"I don't need that," he said. "We don't need that. We care about you guys. We really do. But we'd rather be doing something else."

When the department is tied up with mandates but "the drinkers are falling right in our laps in the middle of town," he said, the department is unable to focus on other matters.

"Figure it out," he said towards the end of the meeting. "It takes us away from a whole bunch of stuff that, believe me, we'd rather be doing."

A New Direction Defined

As the two-hour meeting wound to a close, Assistant Treasurer Tom Corbin announced that the College is currently working to expand permanent alcohol licensing on campus. The College, said Corbin, is attempting to license spaces like the Ross, Atwater and Proctor Dining Halls, as well as the top floor of the Kirk Alumni Center and expanded spaces within the McCullough Student Center.

"By setting these places up to be licensed," he said, "we can reduce the cost to student groups to hold functions in those spaces." Corbin also noted that permanent licenses in these spaces would facilitate catered, sponsored parties on campus.

Several students present, however, still expressed their frustration with changing policies. "I feel that you're doing your job," said one student to the panel members. "But if this law that you're enforcing — if its purpose was to keep kids safe — it's failed. What can we do besides writing a letter to our representative to improve this situation?"

While the meeting, at its conclusion, left these concerns largely unresolved for many of the students present, such comments prompted suggestions that the student body should begin to address ways to avoid irresponsible drinking and to increase personal accountability. This may, in fact, provide a new direction for the on-going debate.

Work continues on released draft

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

we are trying to be more competitive, and I think that's great," commented Eli Berman '07.5, president of the SGA and member of the Task Force on Commons and Student Life. "But hopefully that competitiveness won't come at the expense of our individuality. Sure, we've all heard arguments about why the Feb program is no longer necessary at Middlebury, but the success of it makes us special. I would hate to see the desire to make Middlebury number one in *U.S. News and World Report* eclipse the desire to keep Middlebury unique."

However, most members of the Planning Steering Committee and many faculty members supporting the report are emphasizing that the essential and unique direction of the College remains the same, but that the Strategic Report provides an opportunity to build upon Middlebury's unique identity and strong academic reputation.

"Overall, my sense is that the College is not necessarily headed in new directions with these recommendations, but that the report recommends specific ways that we can do better at achieving the commitments we have already made," said Associate Professor of Psychology Barbara Hofer, who attended two open meetings.

Emerson added, "In many ways Middlebury will still be Middlebury, with its unique identity. It will retain and build upon what our community, including alumni, parentsand trustees, most value about the College."

Another main focus of the Planning Report has been to complete the infrastructure of the commons system. Specifically, the Committee has sought to further integrate it into the curriculum with initiatives like the Commons-based first-year seminar program and to better involve faculty and staff in the system.

But while most faculty members regard the commons system as an essential bridge between the academic and social lives of Middlebury students and a means of enhancing the cultural and intellectual quality of residential life, many students claim that it has unequal housing and separates them from their friends.

Hiba Fakhoury '09 said, "Unless the commons system has facilities of equal quality, then it doesn't make much sense. Plus, I feel connected to people in my dorm just because we live in the same building, while those who live in my commons but in a different building don't feel like part of a close community. There isn't much that we do separately as a commons, so it seems to be a division by name only."

However, echoing Hofer and Emerson, JS Woodward '06, Student Co-Chair of Community Council and member of the Planning Steering Committee, maintained that finishing the commons system would not fundamentally change the College. "I actually don't believe that the completion of the commons infrastructure will have that great of an effect on campus." Addressing Fakhoury's concern of unequal housing, he said, "It does certainly mean that quality of available housing should be brought to a more equal level. I don't think that, aside from the fact that on the north side of campus students now eat at Atwater instead of Freeman, much has changed since Atwater has come online."

Increasing faculty resources to enhance interaction between faculty and students is another central goal of the planning process. Faculty members have consistently expressed frustration at the College's lack of attention to the reducing the size of classes and to their need of adequate time to pursue their own research.

"From the faculty perspective, I think the largest concern is the inadequate attention paid to reducing our teaching load so that it is more comparable to our peer schools and to acknowledging the role of research," said Hofer. "But I was impressed at the two open meetings I attended by the receptiveness of the Committee and the administration to considering revisions of the document to be more explicit in this regard. We need to consider the quality of interactions with students, not just the quantity, and I think we need to seriously consider how faculty teaching loads and large classes work against this."

However, while many have applauded the ambitious goals of the Strategic Planning Report and receptiveness of the Committee, others have questioned its financial plausibility. According to the final chapter of the plan, the endowment must increase by $392 million in order to fully implement the most important recommendations — financial aid, faculty enlargement and eventual completion of the commons infrastructure.

Mike Schoenfeld '73, Planning Steering Committee member and Vice President for College Advancement, remarked, "Implementing the plan will be expensive and we will need to raise a great deal of new money to do everything that we want to do. The goal of raising $392 million in endowment is aggressive, but it is not impossible. We will be able to raise this amount of money eventually, and if we have to move more slowly on some of the goals of the strategic plan, then that is what we will have to do."

The Planning Steering Committee has formulated a special fundraising campaign that specifically communicates the goals of the strategic plan. Planning this campaign will take approximately 18 months, hopefully starting in 2007 and lasting five years.

Emerson commented, "There is no question that finding the needed resources will be a very big stretch. But our core goals of strengthening student financial aid and enhancing the student-faculty interactions that distinguish Middlebury even from the excellent universities with whom we increasingly compete are the right goals for Middlebury. I am optimistic because I know of the great generosity of the College's alumni body, parentsand friends."

The Planning Steering Committee is working now to include feedback and advice from faculty, staff and students that has been received since the release of the Report. A new draft is expected to be issued at the end of J-Term.

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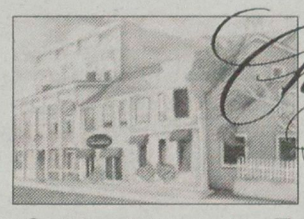

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TALES FROM THE TRENCHES
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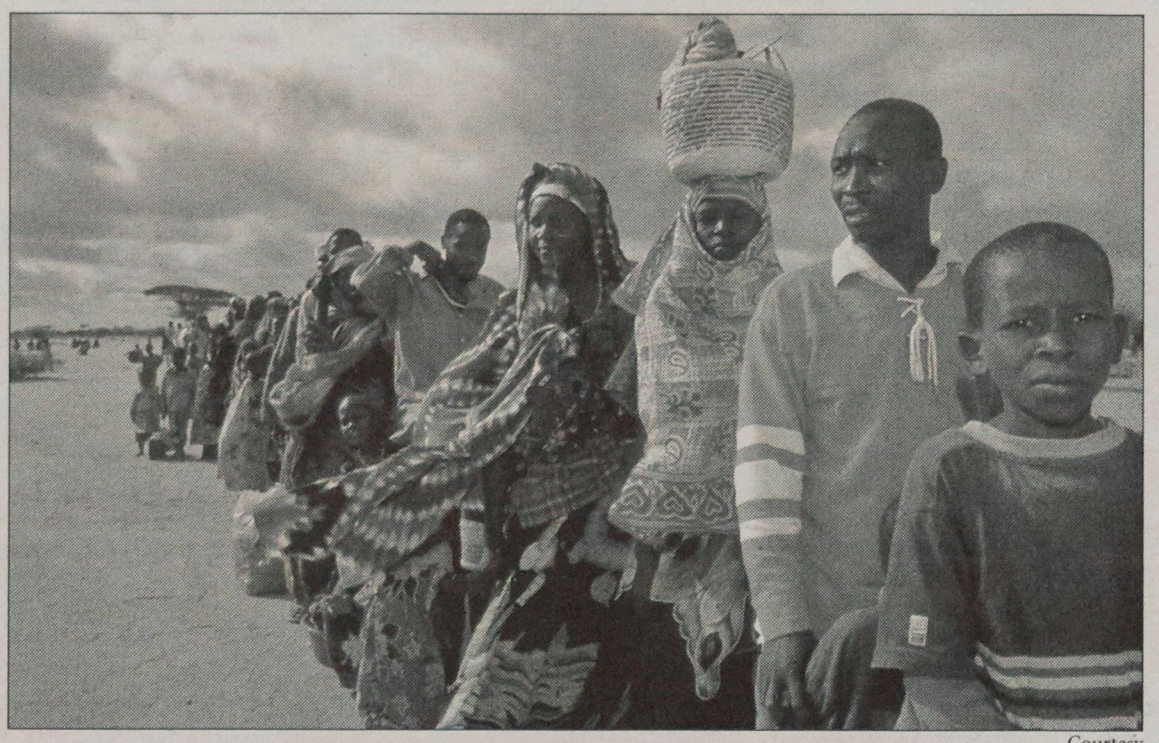
GOIN' TO THE CHAPEL
FREEDOM TO MARRY MOVEMENT TAKES HOLD IN VERMONT

Refugees reveal vivid truths to VFC

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor



Courtesy

Settling into the Green Mountain State, refugees share their immigration experience and cultural traditions.

Though the move from home to Middlebury, Vt., may initially seem daunting to first-year student, this transition in comparison to those made by a record 300 refugees who have resettled in Vermont this past year seems trivial. Coping with a new language is hard enough, but picking up the pieces and starting over despite carrying the heavy load of demoralizing experiences living in a war-ravaged country can make the transition truly formidable.

They may have left behind their homes, physical possessions and even family members, but remembering and participating in their respective cultural traditions can make the adjustment to life in Vermont just a little bit smoother for refugees. It also makes life a lot more interesting for Vermont natives who are lucky enough to witness and participate in learning about a foreign culture. The Vermont Folklife Center (VFC) has a history of working with refugees and immigrants and helping them share their rich culture with their new neighbors in Vermont.

In 1991, the VFC began a project called the master apprenticeship program, which is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. In the program, refugees and immigrants with skills in traditional arts and an interest in sharing their knowledge were paired with local apprentices seeking training in those particular crafts or skills.

The VFC often receives funding from art organizations seeking to tap the breadth of archival resources collected by VFC staff. The staff conducts interviews that are taped and transcribed and the arts organizations donate money to the VFC so that they can host exhibits and events with the refugees and Vermont natives and offer unique programs like the master apprenticeship program. The arts organizations' goal to fund cultural exhibits is met as is the VFC's goal of facilitating the transmission of cultural knowledge to diverse groups.

The VFC is not directly involved with resettling refugees in Vermont. Government agencies such as the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program (VRRP) have that responsibility. Andy Kolovos, an archivist and folklorist at the VFC explained the main goal behind refugee projects. He said, "At the heart of it is asking [the refugees] what are your needs and how can we help facilitate those needs. There is also a revenue component. For example, by helping the Abenaki refugees, who perform traditional basket weaving, get on the registry list of Vermont artists, they become accessible to Vermonters and can both pass on their culture to others and also develop a marketable skill."

Maria Schumann, an intern with the VFC and a Vermont native, along with Greg Sharrow, a director of education and a folklorist at the VFC, are currently conducting research and interviews with Vermont political refugees, mainly Bosnian, Turkish, Sudanese, Somalis and Congolese with funding mainly provided by the Vermont Arts Council. The Arts Council has an interest in adding the names of refugees who practice traditional art to their registry. Once their name is on the registry, other Vermonters can invite them to share their knowledge or artistic skill. For example, a Bantu from Somalia who is a skilled musician can be contacted through the registry by an elementary school wishing to expose children to this fascinating and valuable cultural event.

Schumann and Sharrow find political refugees through government agencies like the VRRP, as well as other refugee assistance programs such as Central Vermont Adult Basic Learning. Schumann explained that so far she has only interviewed official refugees who came through a refugee agency with government because "it's an easy way to start out." But, Schumann would also like to meet with unofficial refugees who came to Vermont on their own, without government assistance.

Generally, the interviewees are open and sometimes share very personal experiences. Schumann always starts interviews explaining why she is interested in their stories. She said, "When I'm about to interview someone I tell them that I want to hear your story and get it on tape both as a resource for Vermonters so they can learn the stories of refugees and also as a resource for you and for your children and grandchildren so that they can go back to the [VFC] to hear about their family's first generation immigrant experience."

Among the refugees Schumann has interviewed, many are well-established and content in their situations. According to Schumann, the Bosnians are typically well-established as most have been in Vermont at least five years and have an advantage of being from a European country with a culture more similar to that of America. Other newer refugees from Russia, Turkey and some Somali Bantus still struggle to make ends meet in their new homes.

Though they may be settled and progressing well in Vermont, the refugees often reveal in their interviews the profound extent that war affected their lives and their outlooks. Schumann said, "The randomness of violence and war has a huge effect. You can be living your life totally normally however that might be for you in your culture and then one day random violence descends on your neighborhood. It's very moving and strong and scary." But not all refugees are fleeing war. Other groups, like the Turkish refugees, are fleeing from discrimination.

Many of the stories are incredibly vivid and moving. Schumann described one interview with a Bosnian woman who described her experience fleeing with her Muslim husband on a bus. Every time the bus stopped, the woman wondered whether her husband would be taken and killed. The VFC makes these tapes and transcriptions available to anyone interested in learning more about political refugees in Vermont.

Hittin' the bowl

Frances Conrad

Despite warmer than usual winter temperatures there has still been enough snow to allow students to take advantage of Middlebury's own Snow Bowl.

Lending a hand and gaining a friend

By Jessica Clayton
Staff Writer

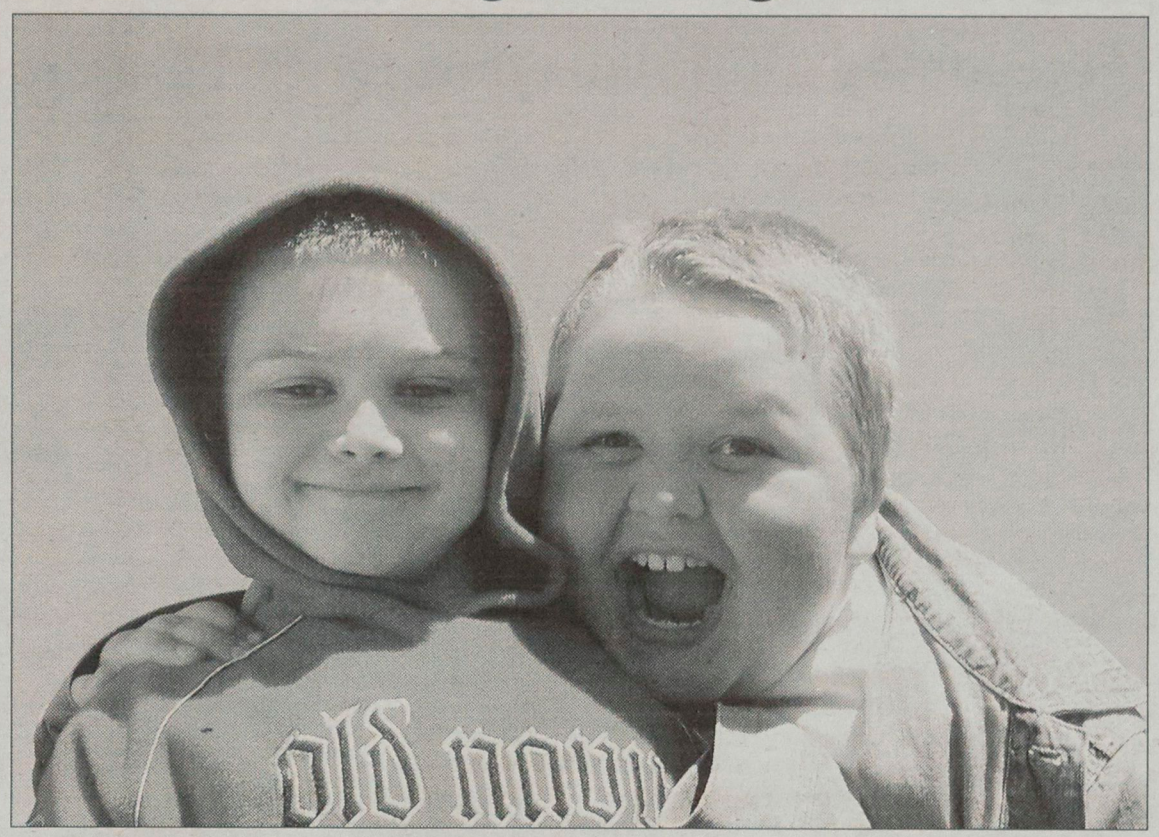
On weekend mornings, as many people stumble out of bed, frantically reaching for ibuprofen and a bottle of water, one group of students is already on its way home. Almost every Saturday the Middlebury College Habitat for Humanity volunteers can be found hiking out to the project's house located on Route-7.

When driving by, one can see the progress made each day. What used to be empty land has become a two-story house. Along with other volunteers, students have cut wood, set up drywall, nailed, glued, painted and created the structure visible today. Most materials are donated or bought with donations, and the building follows the foundation's desire for environmentally — and economically — friendly housing. Side-by-side with the townspeople, student volunteers become part of the community.

Volunteers embrace everyone working at the house, and friendly citizens often bring fresh bagels, coffee and hot chocolate for the workers. The future homeowner can often be seen visiting and dropping off treats for the workers.

Bonding with the younger generations in the surrounding communities, other students volunteer for the Foundation for Excellent Schools. Founded in 1991, this nonprofit organization based in Cornwall aims to help kids establish goals for themselves and inspire them to go to college. Student volunteers involved in the mentoring programs visit their school once every week or two and meet with a child one-on-one for approximately an hour. The time commitment is small, but the benefits are huge.

"You get to watch the progression and growth of your student. It has been shown that kids with mentors show improvement behaviorally, academically and socially, and as that mentor you get to witness all of this," explained Joyce Driscoll '06. The foundation works with five schools in the area, some in Vermont and others in New York. At each school the mentor is paired up with a child to read with him, help him with his homework, and ultimaltey get to know him. More than just a tutor, volunteers become trusted friends of the students.



Courtesy

Two of the many children participating in the FES program take a break from playing with their mentors.

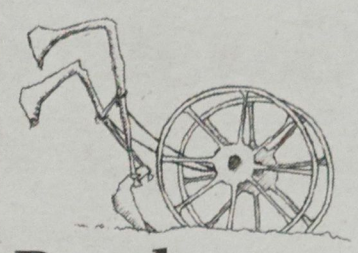
As Driscoll noted, "My first time I was really nervous about interacting one-on-one with a child. But slowly we opened up to each other, we would talk online and she would instant message me first. The fact that we could really develop a relationship was exciting." And these friendships can have big benefits for both the mentor and the student. As volunteers, students get to know all of the other mentors, as well as developing a relationship within a community. For the children, this program gives them hope.

"In the places we go to, many of the parents have not gone to college, and just being around college students, just hearing us talk about our experiences and lives can give them hope and motivation to go to college themselves. If the kids do not have a stable family, we can give them someone to talk to, to rely on, and a role model to look up to," said Driscoll.

Many sports teams also gather their members and set up programs to benefit others. For several years the men's hockey team has had a tradition of becoming mentors to children at local schools, taking the time to visit their young friends on a weekly basis. The team separates in order to spread their involvement to various schools, but they usually go in small groups. "We each have our own student, most of them are in second or third grade. We take them out of class for about an hour. We go to be someone in their lives, be someone to talk to, to play dodge ball with," said Jed McDonald '08. Almost every member of the team participates whenever possible, developing bonds with the students and providing a role model that the students can look up to. Along with group games, the team members assist the students with their studies and provide them with extra one-on-one attention. But benefits go both ways: "We enjoy doing this, a lot of the kids that we work with come to our games and give us support; spending time with them allows us to pay them back for their loyalty and thank them for their support," explained McDonald.

All in all, the players' participation not only connects them to the community, but further connects them to the people who fill up Kenyon Arena to watch them on the ice. Plus, as Thomas Maldonado '08 said, "I get to take time out of my rigorous college life to just play around and have fun for an hour. By participating I get to be a kid again myself."

So, amidst the hustle and bustle of what will soon become a busy school semester, taking time to connect with the community around you could be just as rewarding as extra sleep on a Saturday morning. Whether it be nailing up wall covering, drinking coffee with people from town, laughing with a nine-year old or playing dodgeball with elementary students, what better way is there to forget about your homework and discover a whole new side of yourself? Perhaps you too can volunteer and become a kid again.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

As has historically been the case, American immigrant populations are often left with the work that we natural-born citizens would prefer not to do. I visited a 2,000-cow dairy in Turlock, California this past August. The day was brutally hot and in the ranching world of NorCal, where fields run acre after endless acre, there was not a tree for shading anywhere in sight. In the 90-plus degrees of heat, a middle-aged Mexican immigrant diligently worked beneath the noon sun, T-shirt discarded in the camel colored dirt as sweat covered his bare, brown chest. We visitors stopped in our air-conditioned Ford pick-up truck and witnessed the man swiftly moving around, cutting twine from hundreds of square hay bales and stacking the loose hay in a massive pile. The Mexican immigrant worked through hundreds of small bales before breaking for lunch. Cut. Cut. Lift. Toss. Over and over, beneath the August sun. When that work was done, the man was scheduled to scrub the water troughs throughout the entire complex — a much cooler, but no more glamorous of a job.

Our tour guide, a student intern named Nate, explained how the worker spoke just enough English to work in the United States for a few months. When he had earned enough money, the man would quit and bring his earnings to his family in Mexico — 12 children, according to Nate — only to return to the dairy farm and the hot California sun when the money runs out.

The migration of Hispanic farm workers has stretched beyond the Southwest borderlands. According to the U.S. Labor Department, almost 80 percent of farm workers in the United States are Mexican-born. Workers from all parts of Central America have settled and continue to settle in rural communities in the Northeast, diversifying predominantly white communities. Lacking a decent education (including only 40 percent reporting that they could speak English), migratory workers are often left dependent upon their hosts. Bi-weekly ventures into town for groceries or entertainment are usually chauffeured in a large van by the farmer's wife.

Overall, rural communities do offer some resources and are generally open to immigrant laborers willing to take the jobs that no one else wants. Yet despite the increasing diversification, there remains a lack of ethnic interaction. Many community members think of Hispanic immigrants as migrants who come and go with the seasons, even if they have settled and begun to raise a family. In fact, the settlement of immigrants could renew community development in rural areas suffering from population loss and economic stagnation. Before any social advancements can occur, we must understand not only the impediments to economic opportunity that immigrants face, but also that the language barrier goes both ways.

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

By Daniel L. J. Phillips
Associate Editor

Café Provence
11 Center Street (along Route 7)
Brandon, VT 05733
(802) 247-9997

With more spare time on your hands during J-Term, take advantage of your last three-day weekend and book a table at the Café Provence in Brandon. The restaurant offers an exciting change from the monotony of local Middlebury dining-out, but despite the quaint setting, the ambitious French cuisine fails to dazzle the taste buds.

After making the trip about 16 miles south along Route 7, you will discover that the restaurant and bakery offers a dynamic culinary experience — lunch, bistro and dinner options on weekdays, brunch on weekends and a weekly cooking class for a variety of dishes. The restaurant boasts clean lines and a bright décor of primary colors, while the wicker chairs and tables with optional booth seating nurture an intimate dining atmosphere.

Owned and operated by husband-and-wife Robert and Line Barral, natives of Provence in the Languedoc region of France, the restaurant opened less than two years ago, and they have been busy ever since. Chef Barral features cuisine inspired by the South of France and the Mediterranean regions, and he consistently offers fresh seasonal fare including local organic vegetables and wild game.

Highlights from the appetizer menu include steamed mussels marinieres, fried calamari with balsamic reduction and a variety of specialty salads or the sautéed goat cheese cake. The baked French onion soup is one of the best in the area, and always a winter favorite.

The entrées, however, were the most misleading part of the menu as the richness of the starch and the blandness of the stewed toppings masked most of the flavor. The seafood courses are all extremely heavy, loaded with creamy polenta or smoked salmon mousse, while the evening's venison special and the braised lamb shank entrée were too saturated and lacking in taste.

The best bet is the sirloin steak with green peppercorn sauce, unless the chef is offering any wild fowl specials, such as pheasant or quail. For those craving a more Mediterranean style, try the hearth oven-baked vegetarian lasagna or creamy fresh spinach pasta. Café Provence also serves bistro-style hearth oven pizza, featuring barbeque pork or Portobello mushroom toppings.

Café Provence stocks an admirable wine list, mostly showing spicy selections from the Rhone valley in France and full-bodied Rhone blends or Cabernet Sauvignon-based reds from Napa Valley to compete with the rich flavors of the heavy stews and bland mains. They have a few unique bottles of white from the New World, including a fruity, floral Oregon Pinot Gris, but the rest are full-bodied Chardonnays or Marsanne Rousanne blends from the Rhone. Just be prepared to spend upwards of $25 for the bottle of your choice.

Personally, I was disappointed when our table's first choice of wine was unavailable that evening, and the chef had to substitute lentils and white beans for the goat cheese ravioli, a regular side dish accompanying the staple lamb shank entrée.

This romantic dining haven would be a perfect Valentine's Day getaway, so be sure to book far in advance to enjoy their *prix fixe* menu of the evening, featuring pheasant with foie gras, seafood crepes and filet of salmon Wellington.

Gay marriage supporters look beyond unions

Leaders attend 'Freedom to Marry' in effort to start grassroots movement

By Christine Fisher
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday, Jan. 18, two members of the Middlebury College community — Judy Olinick, Coordinator of Russian and German departments, and her husband Michael Olinick, professor of mathematics — hosted a "Freedom to Marry" party at their home in Middlebury in support of the movement to legalize same-sex marriages in the state of Vermont.

Although same-sex marriages are already recognized in places as diverse as Massachusetts, Canada, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands, the current law in Vermont only acknowledges gay and lesbian couples through what is known as a civil union, a legal status that was created in 2000 after three same-sex couples filed suit against the state of Vermont, demanding legal acknowledgment of their relationship status in the historic case of *Baker v. Vermont*.

However, due to the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which defines marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman for purposes of all federal laws," the legal acknowledgment that resulted was not the same title of marriage which heterosexual couples can receive if they so choose, but instead the creation of a completely new, separate category for homosexuals.

Although a civil union confers some key legal rights for same-sex couples, it still differs significantly from full marriage, mainly because it is not federally recognized. Consequently, couples joined under a civil union run into problems even with basic privileges that heterosexual couples take for granted, such as social security and health care benefits, as well as issues with reciprocity when moving from a state where civil unions are legal to a state where they are not.

Furthermore, the mere existence of a separate legal category to recognize same-sex relationships perpetually reminds the gay community of their segregation from their heterosexual counterparts — a "separate but equal" status that calls to mind the racial discrimination that was ultimately put to bed with the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision of 1954.

In spite of such criticisms of the civil union law, its inception in 2000 was still a truly momentous occasion and cause for celebration for many gay activists and supporters because it represented a step from no equality at all to at least partial rights. Since Massachusetts would not legalize same-sex marriage until four years later, the ratification of this law initially made Vermont a torchbearer for the larger national movement for gay rights.

Now, six years later, the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force (VFMTF) is reclaiming and reaffirming that leadership status, as they work throughout the state to provide education about the importance of full marriage equality by sponsoring house parties, attending community events and reaching out to supportive clergy and other interested community members. They aim to complete the work they began in 2000 with their ultimate goal being achievement of full marriage rights for same-sex couples.

Robyn Maguire, field director of the VFMTF, and Beth Robinson, a chairwoman and attorney who worked on the historic *Baker* decision, attended the event held at the Olinicks' home last week. They were joined by similarly well-informed and actively engaged people in the marriage equality movement in the Middlebury College community, including a co-president of Middlebury Open Queer Alliance and Karin Hanta, Director of Chellis House, the women's and gender studies resource center on campus.

The possibility for moving beyond civil unions seems promising: polls show that a solid 40 percent of Vermonters currently support full marriage equality. In that sense, civil unions have been successful, if only as a sort of priming ground to garner greater public tolerance for the possibility of gay and lesbian marriages. Maguire likened this gradual process of the public's changing values to a learning curve, as she explained that five years ago, perceptions of the homosexual community were much more negative and stereotypical than they are today. Images in the media often portrayed the most extreme fringes of their community, resulting in a jilted perception of what a gay or lesbian person might look like.

With a strong base level of support for the cause already in place, Maguire stressed the power students hold to become activists in this movement and help enact change. The data are very heartening in this respect as they show considerably greater support for same-sex marriages among young people. According to the Web Site pollingpoint.com, 70 percent of the 18 to 24 age group believe gay couples should be allowed to marry; 10 percent believe there should be civil unions, but no marriage; and 20 percent believe there should be no legal recognition. In the 55 to 65 age group, only 35 percent believe gay couples should be allowed to marry; 25 percent support civil unions but no marriage; and 40 percent are against any sort of legal recognition. It is therefore easy to see how young people indeed hold a great deal of power to act out on this issue, if only for their greater dissatisfaction with the status quo.

To learn more about the gay rights initiative:

Friday, Jan. 27: Don't Ask, Don't Tell and the Solomon Amendment: Current Practices and Constitutional Challenges

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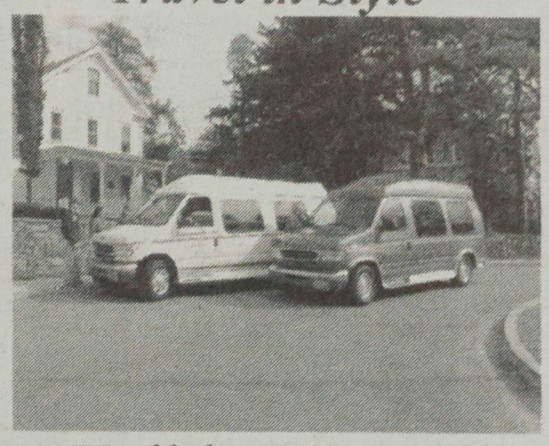

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opinions

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Diplomacy: missing ingredient in SCCOCC - SGA relations

That a rift between the Student Co-Chair of the Community Council (SCCOCC) JS Woodward '06 and Student Government Association (SGA) President Eli Berman '07.5 exists is an unfortunate state of affairs that all lengths should be taken to remedy. That the tensions between the two student leaders has transcended the private realm and moved into the in-boxes of college administrators and *Middlebury Campus* editors via a mass e-mail from Woodward is ridiculous and jeopardizes the ability of the two positions to perform their necessary joint functions.

The primary complaint of *The Campus* does not center on the criticisms Woodward posits of Berman, which may be perfectly valid -- Woodward's accusation that Berman prioritizes the SGA's public image over its functionality is especially disturbing -- but rests on the method he chose to convey them. Many of the e-mails sent by SGA cabinet members in response to Woodward's correspondence in fact agree with some of the SCCOCC's points, but render his action inexcusable.

In his e-mail to Berman, Woodward "highly recommends that you schedule a meeting to which all are invited so that we might ameliorate the problems that have confronted us and continue the work with which we have been charged." He continues, "If you are unable or unwilling to do this, you will force me to call for your immediate resignation." It is unfortunate that Woodward did not exhaust his options for resolving issues through mediation and meetings prior to hitting the send button on his incendiary e-mail. Whether the e-mail was sent as a last resort or not, the action is in the past and student government must now look towards the immediate future.

Based on the responses from most, although not all SGA members, Woodward's threat to call for Berman's resignation if the problems are not ameliorated does not seem realistic. Section nine of the SGA Constitution states that "any member of the Presidential Cabinet or Senate shall be impeached when they violated the SGA Constitution or bylaws in a clear and intention[al] manner." In his e-mail, Woodward cited Berman's repeated failure to send out meeting agenda documents on time as an impeachable offense. Such language portrays Woodward as actively digging up grounds for an impeachment when the conflict is more akin to a clash of leadership styles.

Throughout Woodward's nearly two-year tenure as SCCOCC, and during Eli's semester as SGA president, both individuals have demonstrated an ability to pass legislation and otherwise positively impact the school.

Because one aspect of Woodward's position is effectively to serve as the SGA Vice-President, and there does not appear to be grounds to begin the impeachment process for Berman, the only alternative seems to be for the two highest ranking student leaders on campus to resolve their differences in a professional manner through compromise and mediation if either one desires to leave a mark on the College in the upcoming semester.

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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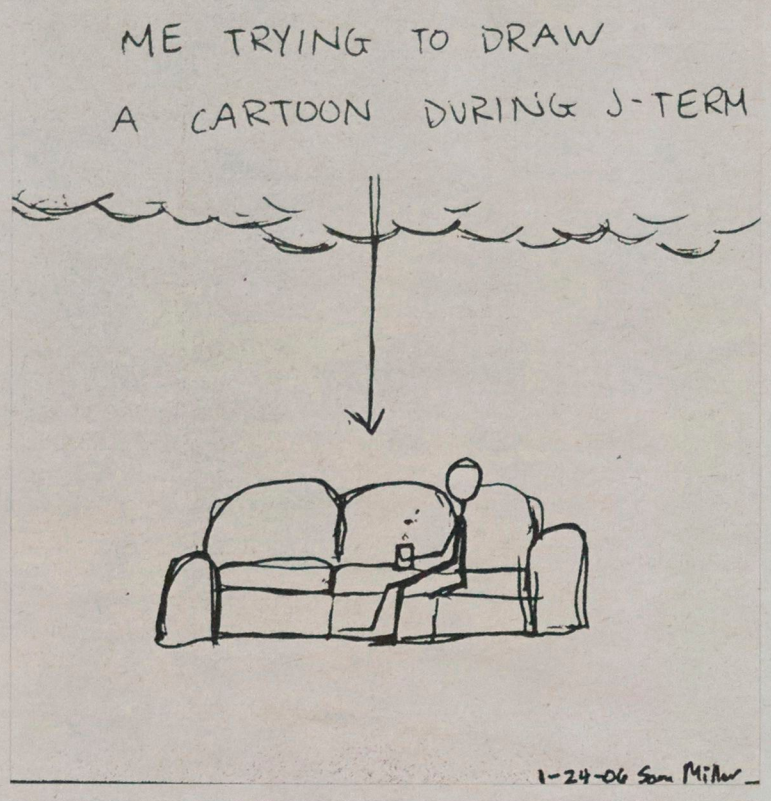
HEARD ON CAMPUS

THE SQUEAKY WHEEL GETS THE GREASE.

- Tom Hanley, Middlebury Chief of Police at last Thursday's Alcohol Town Meeting in reference to increased encounters between students and police officers.



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

The Middlebury Campus' recent color spread highlighting the Middlebury men's hockey team brought to light a disturbing trend that I've noticed over the course of the past two years: the exploits of the men's team are well documented, and the two-time defending National Champion women's team gets the short end of the stick. While the men's recent success received full attention, last week's edition of *The Campus* did not feature a single story on the women's team, despite the fact that the women hold a better record at this point than do their male counterparts. The women were relegated to one of the last pages of the sports section, and received a measly photograph for their efforts. *The Campus*' coverage is slanted and the women's squad deserves much better.

Biased coverage contributes to the problem of sparse attendance at women's hockey contests. The Middlebury women have five of the Top 10 teams on their schedule this season. Yet, the games against national powers Elmira and Plattsburgh were poorly attended, and the crowd at last week's overtime tilt against Wisconsin River-Falls would have been even smaller had the Falcons not brought a group of supporters. With top western teams such as St. Thomas and Gustavus Adolphus on the remaining schedule, I'd expect attendance to improve, but I don't think this will happen. The editors of *The Campus* only perpetuate this problem, and they should be equal in their coverage so that all of our National Champions get the respect they deserve.

Sincerely,
Nick DeSantis '04
WRMC Sports Broadcaster

To the Editor:

My first excess of political correctness in Middlebury was at the door of the library: I held it open for a girl who told me that I was playing an aggressive stereotype. My answer had none of the gentle manners that I had exhibited before, but she could immediately tell that I come from a Spanish speaking country because of my strong accent, and said "you're in America now".

So, being in "America" (which, by the way, is an offensive term to all the other countries of the American continent), I was really surprised by the library's campaign for silence during December: all the signs depicted an overtly sexist message, that the joker that taped a piece of paper saying, "women are to be seen not heard" criticized in the previous issue only made explicit. The original text was: "She realized too late that she shouldn't have tried to talk to him while he was studying for his chemistry midterm;" so, she talks, he studies and, of course, he studies *science*, because he is intelligent. Another sign, displaying a girl talking by the phone, said, "she couldn't see that no one around her was interested in her trip to the mall." So, girls can do more than talking, they can shop! Two more: "She loved him for being the strong, SILENT type" and "it was hopeless… she knew she'd never finish her English paper on time—she just couldn't concentrate!" Guys respects the rules, girls don't.

I am not defending that joker, but the joke worked because the signs were already offensive.

Sincerely,
Pablo Martínez-Gramuglia
Spanish Teacher Assistant

Fight global warming and save broomball

The history of broomball is not written in books, but on the icy court in front of McCullough each winter. In an age when professional sports are dominated by corruption, steroids and traitors (curse you, Johnny Damon), broomball is a noble reminder of what sports should be all about. The concussions, the last minute goals, the sub-zero games: all have become the stuff of legend.

As I write, this great Middlebury tradition is being swept into the dustbin of history by the broom of global warming. According to the Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG), since the 1960s, winter in Vermont, as marked by snow and ice cover on lakes across the northeast, has shortened by two weeks. Snowfall has also decreased by 15 percent since the 1950s.

This is bad news for broomball. Who among us remembers last year, when the rink in front of McCullough turned into a swamp halfway through the season? The colder temperatures this week are heartening, but the mercury rose once again last week, turning the ice into slush. And let's face it, slush sucks.

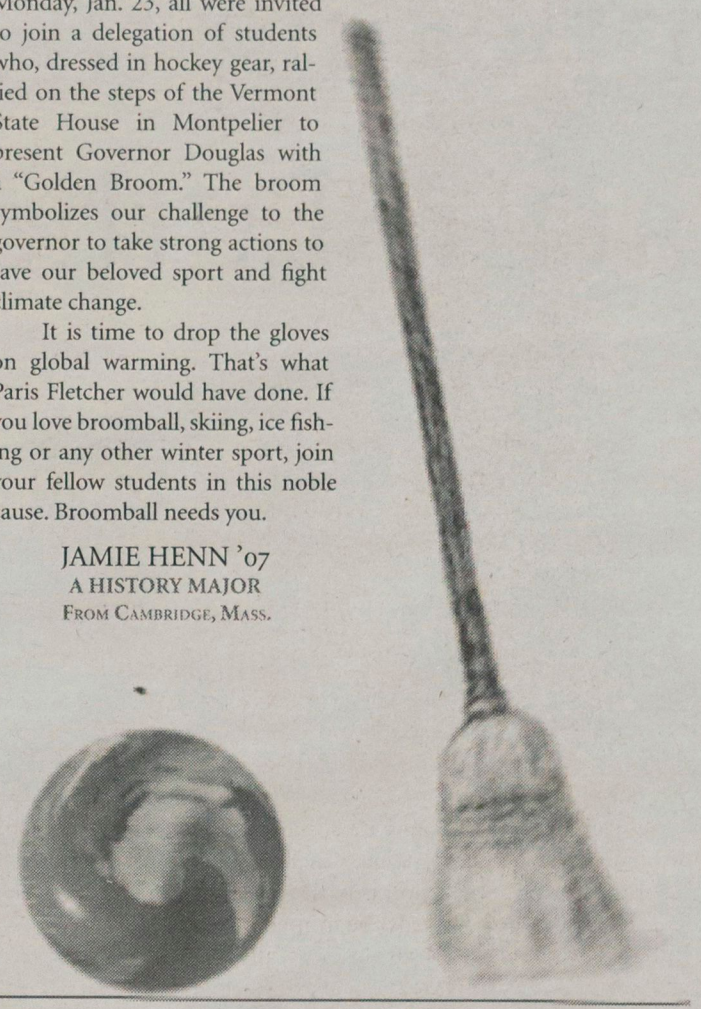
Slush means fewer days playing broomball, fewer days at the Sno Bowl and Bread Loaf, less ice fishing, and no more ice climbing. Scholar in Residence in Environmental Studies Bill McKibben once said that global warming threatens to turn our famous Vermont winters into a five-month "mud season," the name New Englanders have given the early spring, when melting snow turns the region into a giant mud pit. "Mud Carnival" just doesn't have the same ring as "Winter Carnival," does it?

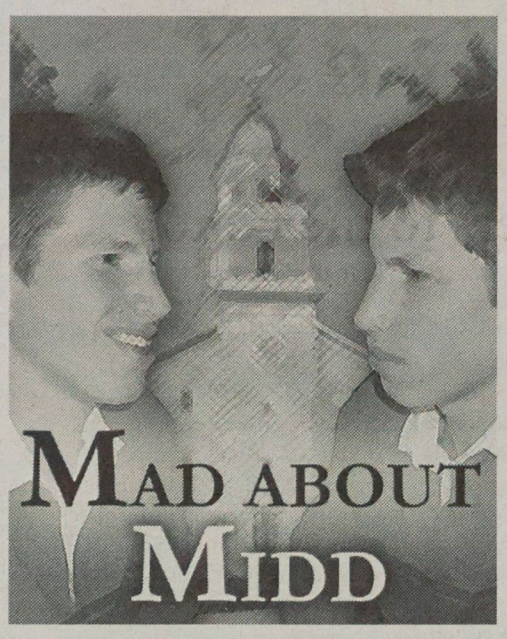
Another great tradition, Middlebury hockey, began as an outdoor sport in the 1920s. "On the site of what is now Munroe Hall, there were three tennis courts cut into the side of the hill and they had square wooden posts to hold the nets," recalled Paris Fletcher '24. "We secured an old two-handled cross-cut saw and cut them nearly at ground level. I don't recall consulting the College authorities in advance, but once we had removed those obstacles, we had a nice flat area large enough for a hockey rink, and it was *fait accompli* . . . ."

Last Thursday, Jan. 19, the Sunday Night Group honored the legacy of Paris Fletcher and all the great outdoor hockey and broomball players that have graced this college campus with a "Save Broomball, Fight Climate Change!" game in front of McCullough. All were encouraged to attend to show support. On Monday, Jan. 23, all were invited to join a delegation of students who, dressed in hockey gear, rallied on the steps of the Vermont State House in Montpelier to present Governor Douglas with a "Golden Broom." The broom symbolizes our challenge to the governor to take strong actions to save our beloved sport and fight climate change.

It is time to drop the gloves on global warming. That's what Paris Fletcher would have done. If you love broomball, skiing, ice fishing or any other winter sport, join your fellow students in this noble cause. Broomball needs you.

JAMIE HENN '07
A HISTORY MAJOR
From Cambridge, Mass.





Skillz to pay the billz

By Dave Barker
Opinion Columnist

A recent Associated Press headline grabbed my attention at Atwater Dining Hall the other day, "College students lacking skills." I thought I would finally be reading an in-depth analysis of the lame, 2 a.m. pick-up line heard at McCullough on Saturday nights, "Shoot, I forgot my access card. Could you walk me back?" But "No" instead of addressing the lack of game nationwide, the article spoke of an issue worthy of shame. Over 50 percent of students at four-year schools struggle to perform complex literacy tasks like understanding credit card offers or comparing the cost per ounce of food.

While Middlebury students can be trusted with calculating the cost per ounce of more liquid foods, namely those high in malt and hops, most of us will graduate intellectually skewed, our brains wired for understanding narrative theory and the Phillips curve instead of knowing when to use a Phillips screwdriver. A liberal arts education leaves us illiterate when it comes to performing routine, life-long tasks that await us as we hobble away from graduation, leaning on Gamaliel Painter's cane.

J-Term workshops and classes give students needed support — one can learn to repair a bicycle, write a business plan, or more importantly, play the Celtic fiddle. Unfortunately, these classes are not included in tuition and are offered at a time when the Green Mountains exert their magnetic force or when some students are off campus pursuing internships. Let's face it, Middlebury needs a ninth distribution requirement, which I call Skillz (SKZ). The following classes fulfill the Skillz requirement.

Economics for those who don't receive the Wall Street Journal in their campus mailbox

Focusing on investment strategies and the art of bargaining in third world countries, this new addition to the economics department lets you leave the calculator at home. In-depth research projects include how to get a tax refund regardless of whether you pay taxes and the New York real estate market: why you'll never be able to afford more than a studio apartment.

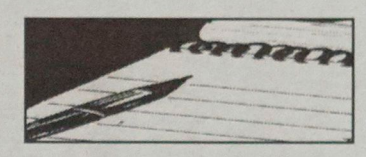
Craftsmanship: Skills that will wean your dependency on big box stores

This course is ideal for students who have never pounded a nail beyond a late-night game of Stump. You'll bypass the bookstore for the lumber yard and finish with a fine collection of homemade items like a bar, coffee table, and mahogany bookshelf for showing off your collection of political science tomes. A craftsmanship senior seminar will be offered for those who had the laundry service throughout their four years and have questions about powder vs. liquid and drying temperatures.

Street smarts: Why knowing how to make a GIS map doesn't mean you won't get lost on the subway

Paying particular focus to students who might leave rural Vermont and live in the city one day, this course improves urban savvy and "street cred." You'll learn why an umbrella beats GORE-TEX and how to get on a guest list. One afternoon will be given to the proper folding technique of a daily newspaper when in crammed, public transportation environments.

With a Skillz requirement, that Painter cane will feel a little more sturdy. Now, if only I could make out the fine print on my Visa statement.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

If you want to change Middlebury, now is the time. For the first time in over a decade, every aspect of Middlebury and its future is being rethought and revamped — and we can all have a say in it. The Planning Steering Committee released its report in the beginning of January, and, though I know it's not optimal J-Term reading material, if you care about Midd, then you should take a look at the report. Even if you just page through it in the bathroom.

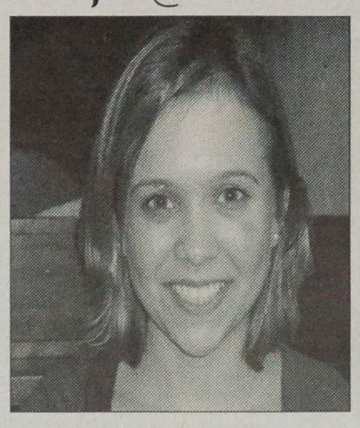
Last week, the Planning Committee hosted three open meetings for faculty, staff and students to share their opinions and concerns about the report. I attended the Tuesday afternoon meeting and was the only student there, besides the two students who served on the committee. Where were all the other student voices to be heard?

It's not that I didn't have anything better to do on a Tuesday afternoon in J-Term. And honestly, as a supersenior who's graduating in a week, it's not that I have a vested interest in the immediate future of Middlebury. But as a student here, there are things in the report about which I thought the Committee needed to know the student opinion. Read the report. There's some big stuff in there on which I'm sure a lot of us have big opinions. The report recommends increasing socio-economic diversity within the student body, reducing the number of Feb admissions by nearly half, consolidating the distribution requirements and possibly adding a language requirement, eliminating triple majors and reducing the number of double majors, and revising the way that athletics are treated at Middlebury, both on the campus and in the admissions process. And those are just a few of the recommendations — there are 82 altogether. Eighty-two ways Midd will be different.

The report addresses everything from the student body to the graduate programs to the infrastructure of the College, and I encourage you all to take a look and have a say. You can email your thoughts to deanofplanning@middlebury.edu. You can really be the one that makes Midd better.

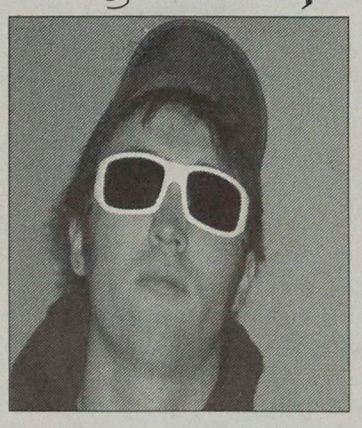
— Andrea M. LaRocca

The Middlebury Campus online poll



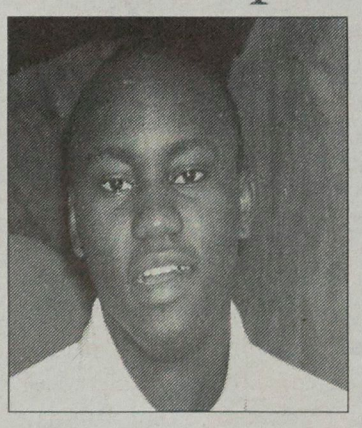
"CHILL? HAVE YOU BEEN OUTSIDE!?"

—JESSICA SINGLETON '08.5



"YEAH DUDE, SO CHILL, BUT SERIOUSLY I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY 250 PAGES OF READING FOR TONIGHT."

—WILLIAM T. CARROLL '07.5



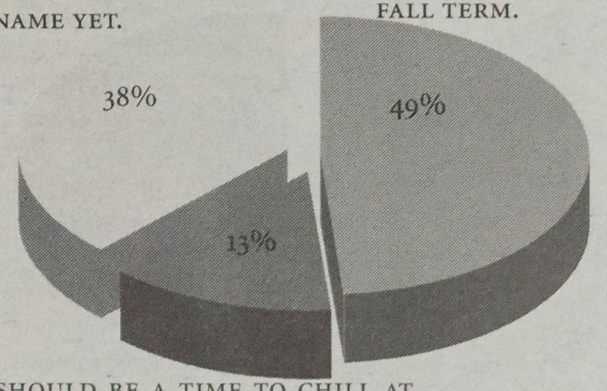
"I'M TAKING A VERY RELAXING COURSE. YOU'VE CAUGHT ME DOING WORK FOR THE FIRST TIME."

—PAPA FAYE '08

IS J-TERM REALLY A TIME TO CHILL?

YES, INDEED; I DON'T EVEN KNOW MY PROFESSOR'S NAME YET.

NO WAY, I HAVE MORE WORK THAN I HAD IN FALL TERM.

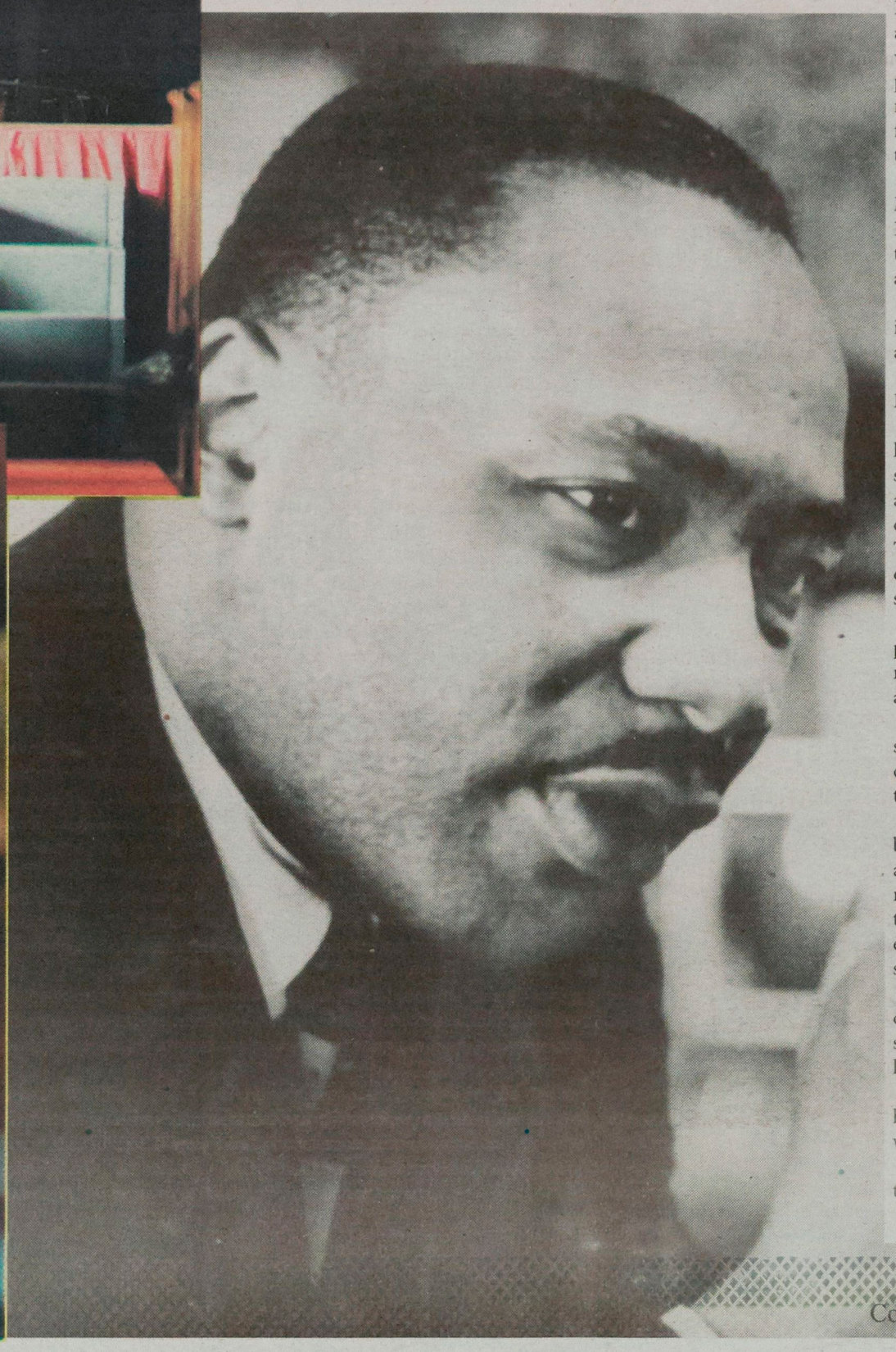


IT SHOULD BE A TIME TO CHILL AT HOME, WHY DO WE HAVE SCHOOL AGAIN?

Results based on 45 responses collected on January 24, 2006 at The Grille.

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: DO YOU THINK THAT GLOBAL WARMING IS A REAL PROBLEM?

Remembering the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



On Jan. 16 faculty, staf
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
and nestled into the pews
when Twilight Artist-in-Re
pet Blow." Following the so
mont Governor James H. D
from one of Dr. King's famo
the holiday, noting that it "

Following his speech,
My Hand". Afterward, Coll
First-year Ethiopiah Al-Ma
the speech "Where do we g
also read from various spee

After the completion o
importance of rememberin
alumnus and College truste

The service concluded
Dining Hall where attende

That evening, a choral
lege, this was the first year
staff and townspeople. He c
a J-Term class at Middlebu
quickly became a popular
Theatre Dana Yeaton and
during the concert. Esau Pr
sion, appearing in producti

"The combination of
personifying the words rea
munity, no one could ques
audience as the holiday gai

In addition to holding
speeches. These kiosks wer
celebration as they allowed
to Clemmons. "Also, it allo

Even with the addition
be done to give the holiday
as well as the faculty incorp
rights for everyone, and it's
the College is always lookin
especially enjoyed the fello
speeches.

Clemmons also suppo
day symposium in which "t
society faces which should
life and a better future," he

Even though there is n
holiday commemorations h
with the support of admini

With the help of facul
than a day about one man.

Courtesy

"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."
– Martin Luther King, Jr. 1961

Left to Right: Middlebury College President Ronald D. Liebowitz; Twilight Artist-in-Residence François Clemmons; Michael Obel-Omia '88 and Liebowitz; Obel-Omia; Rishabh Kashyap '08; Vermont Governor James H. Douglas '72

staff, students and townspeople gathered in Mead Chapel to celebrate the memory of
g, Jr. Despite the morning chill, friends and family met each other with warm greetings
ews of the chapel to honor the famed preacher. The noise of the crowd was silenced
n-Residence François Clemmons began the service with a rendition of "Blow Ye Trum-
ne song, College President Ronald D. Liebowitz welcomed everyone to the service. Ver-
H. Douglas '72 also made an appearance for the third year in a row, citing a few words
famous sermons, "Loving Your Enemies." Douglas also spoke about the importance of
t it "reminds us of the progress we have made and the goals yet to be obtained."
ech, Clemmons continued the service with a musical tribute, "Precious Lord, Take
College students performed readings from some of Dr. King's most famous speeches.
-Mahdi read from "I See the Promised Land" and Crystal Correa '08 recited lines from
we go from here?" Tafadzwa Dube '08, Rishabh Kashyap '08 and Jacklyn Laryea '07
speeches.

ion of the student readings, the service's main speaker, Michael Obel-Omia '88, spoke to the audience on the
bering Dr. King and taking the responsibility to spread his ideals of love and acceptance. Obel-Omia, who is an
rustee, talked about the importance of sharing with others who are less fortunate.

uded with a choral presentation directed by Clemmons. After the ceremony, a breakfast was held in Proctor
ndees could discuss issues of racism in our world today.

ioral concert was held in Mead Chapel. Even though this concert has become a tradition at Middlebury Col-
ear it was held in Mead Chapel. Eight years ago Clemmons began the choir, which includes faculty, students,
He currently teaches "The History of the American Negro Spiritual and its Influence on Western Civilization,"
lebury. In years past, the choir performed a free concert on the Friday before Martin Luther King Day, and it
ular way to celebrate his memory. To augment the experience of the concert, Clemmons, Visiting Lecturer in
nd Dr. Michael Kiernan collaborated to propose the idea that dramatic readings of King's speeches be held
u Pritchett, a professional actor, has performed these readings. He has been active in both theater and televi-
ductions such as "Othello," "To Kill a Mockingbird" and the television show "Law and Order."

n of music and actual words of Dr. King make for a powerful evening," Clemmons said. "Having an actor
s really brings the speeches alive." With a packed Mead Chapel and over 90 singers from all areas of the com-
question the energy felt at the "Let Freedom Sing!" concert. Each year has brought both a larger choir and
gains more prominence in the Middlebury community.

ding the evening concert in Mead Chapel, kiosks were set up across campus playing video clips of Dr. King's
were created with help from Library and Information Services. The kiosks were a welcome addition to the
wed people to "take the time to stop and reflect on the historical role of Black people in America," according
allows people to reflect on the abuse, pain and suffering that was different from their own."

itions made this year, Clemmons and Associate Dean of the College Marichal Gentry believe even more can
iday additional prominence. Gentry said that he "would like to see greater student participation in the events,"
corporating the significance of the holiday into their lectures. "Dr. King has a legacy of peace, hope and equal
d it's important to find a way to remember him for his contribution," said Gentry. He also commented that
oking for ways to improve the service, and added that he was very happy with the events of the day. He said he
ellowship breakfast as well as the "passion and fervor" that Pritchett put into his dramatizations of Dr. King's

pported the idea of having more students participate in the events. He mentioned the idea of creating an all-
ch "there would be a panel discussion on all different types of racism and discrimination. There are issues our
uld be looked at in an honest, forthright and non-threatening manner so that we can plan for a more positive
" he said.

is more to be done in celebrating this day, both Clemmons and Gentry expressed excitement in how far the
ns have come. "I'm very pleased with how the holiday has become a more campus-supported event, especially
ministrators like President Liebowitz and [Dean of the College] Tim Spears," said Clemmons."

faculty, students, administrators and townspeople Martin Luther King Jr. Day has become something more
an. Rather, it focuses on the significance of addressing all types of problems in our society.

– Jay Dolan

Photos by Vlad Lodoaba
Layout by Jay Dolan

features

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Relay for Life jumpstarts efforts

By Rachel Durfee
Staff Writer

Relay for Life, a national fundraiser for the American Cancer Society that takes place in cities and towns across the country, has had a place in the life of Ross Lieb-Lappen '07 since he was in the sixth grade. Lieb-Lappen's father first started a team in Cohasset, Mass., to honor a close family friend who was diagnosed with cancer. Moved by the event, Lieb-Lappen started his own team and continued to participate in the event all the way through high school. After discovering one of his 5-year-old campers was a cancer survivor, Lieb-Lappen said, "I was hooked. When I left for college, I knew I wanted to take Relay with me." And he did.

At Middlebury, Relay for Life is transformed into an 18-hour walk-a-thon taking place over the course of one night. The evening includes food, music, entertainment and a commemorative luminary ceremony. This year's relay will be held on the College track around the soccer field starting Friday, April 28 at 3:00 p.m., through 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 29. Co-chair Lee Corbett '07 describes Relay as much more than a fundraiser. "It is a time to remember those people who have lost the battle to cancer, give hope to those who are still fighting the battle and honor those who have survived cancer. Relay gives everyone a chance to support each other and have fun together," while raising awareness and money for cancer research.

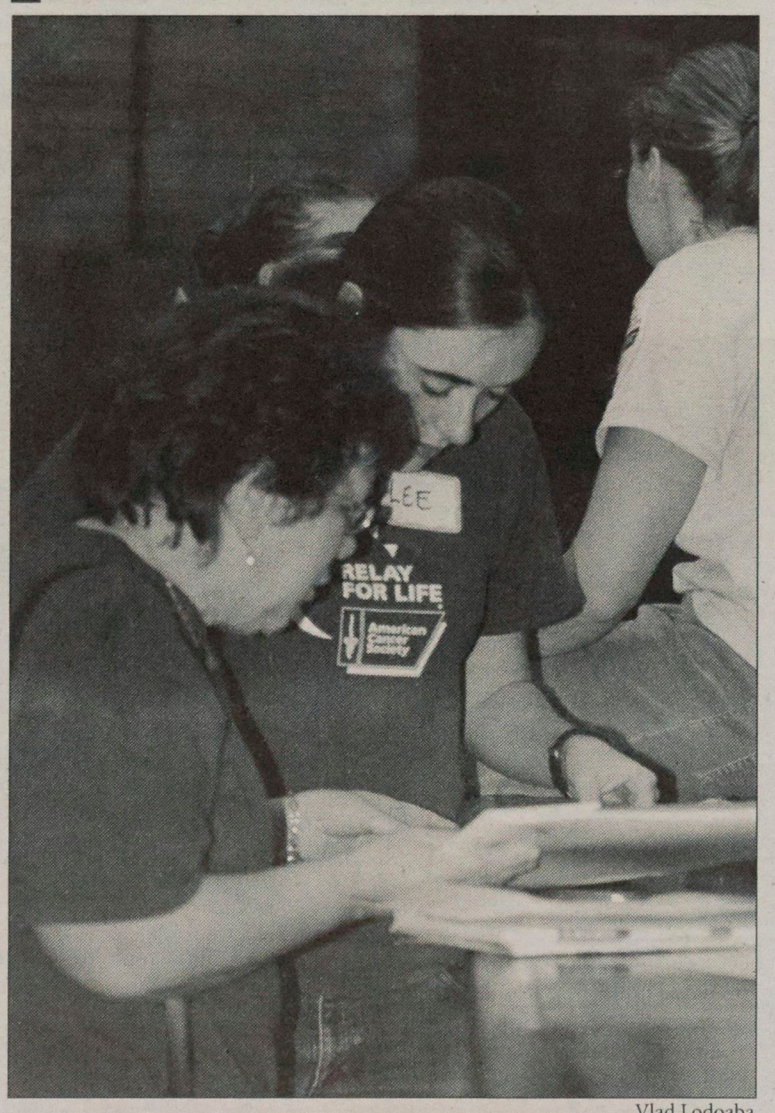
Participants form teams and raise money by selling luminaria bags. Each participant is encouraged to raise at least $100, but many walkers set a higher goal — last year's highest fundraiser raised over $7,000. Prizes are given to the individual and team that raise the most money. This year's total fundraising goal is $200,000 and planners are aiming for 1,000 participants, including 60 cancer survivors, distributed among 100 teams. Other goals include involving more faculty and youth from the community, as well as encouraging more people to spend the night outside at the track.

Linda Larocque, co-chair of the sponsorship committee and academic coordinator for the Chinese department, is garnering support from the community by distributing information packets. The response thus far has been positive. "Most are more than willing to donate and want to get a team together. There are not too many people whose lives have not been touched by cancer," said Larocque.

The Relay Web site encourages participants "to go nuts" with this year's theme, "Saving the World from Cancer: Who Is Your Hero?" Walkers are encouraged to name their teams after a favorite superhero, decorate their campsites with superhero regalia and dress up like superheroes. The night includes performances from college and community groups, guest speakers and fun competitions. At dusk, Relay members arrange luminaria bags to spell the word "HOPE" in the football stands, symbolizing "the hope we are giving to cancer patients as we support the search for a cure." Corbett's favorite memory from last year was keeping the candles lit all night long, working diligently to relight or replace candles as they went out. "When the sun finally rose over the tired and muddy Relay participants, we were moved to see that the HOPE still burned," recalled Corbett.

Larocque, a cancer survivor of 12 years, participates in the survivor lap, held right after the opening ceremony. She remembers her first time: "I was so unprepared for the emotional aspect of the 'Survivor Lap.' As we started walking, the crowd started clapping and cheering for us, running from one side of the infield to the other as we walked. The tears just flowed." Co-chair Whitney Thomas '07, added, "Those of us involved and the individuals who participate every year realize that this little effort from a small town in Vermont can and is making a difference in numerous people's lives."

Vlad Lodoaba
"Saving the World from Cancer: Who Is Your Hero?" is the 2006 Relay for Life theme, inspiring participants to dress as popular super heroes.



Vlad Lodoaba
Local volunteers rally together to raise money for cancer research.

To spread the word and get the student body excited, members of the planning committee ran through dining halls on Sunday night dressed as superheroes and distributed Relay pamphlets.

This year's first official kick-off event will take place on Jan. 24 in the McCullough Social Space. The Relay for Life kickoff events, according to Corbett, are "a time to learn more about the event, see pictures from last year, meet other Relay participants, find out how to start a team, and get excited and psyched up for Relay in April." The agenda on the 24th includes a short video of the Middlebury Relay in 2005, a recap of last year's success, an announcement of this year's goals, information about registering a team and a question and answer session. For those unable to attend the first kickoff event and to find out more about Relay for Life, a second kick-off will take place on Feb. 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the McCullough Social Space. Plans for this event include a guest speaker, fundraising ideas, information about the American Cancer Society and breakout sessions on specific areas of Relay. Co-chairs Corbett and Thomas run both events, and the entire community is welcome to attend.

Relay For Life official kick-off event: Jan. 24

Relay for Life is now entering its third year at Middlebury. In the fall of 2003, Lieb-Lappen and Meg Young '07 decided to start Relay on campus. Lieb-Lappen says Middlebury "was just waiting for such an event." When he asked Young to sign on she thought, "Why not? I was a very hopeful and very naïve freshman — it totally paid off." Young, a granddaughter, niece and friend of cancer survivors, said Relay "allows me to channel feelings of hopelessness and distress into action and aid."

Lieb-Lappen and Young recruited students and members of the community to work on the planning committee and were able to raise $83,000 in the spring of 2004. Young describes the inaugural year as "a hectic, wonderful, eye-opening, heart-expanding way to begin my time at Middlebury." Last year the Relay was an even bigger success: 862 participants on 76 teams raised $177,000, more than doubling the previous year's total. The Relay has surpassed all Lieb-Lappen and Young's initial goals and they cite the enthusiasm of Middlebury students and the surrounding community for making the event such a success. Says Lieb-Lappen, "the joining of community members and students to fight a common cause has impressed me the most."

The 50 people on the Relay for Life planning committee, which includes students, faculty and members of the administration, have been working on the event since early this past fall. The committee oversees all aspects of the event, including behind-the-scenes logistics, publicity, planning entertainment and ceremonies, recruiting corporate sponsors, as well as collecting and organizing cancer education materials to have available at the event. "Everyone on the committee works incredibly hard, and Relay would not be possible without their dedication and enthusiasm," said Corbett.

According to the Relay for Life Web site, Relay "is about celebration, remembrance and hope. By participating, you honor cancer survivors, pay tribute to the lives we've lost to the disease and raise money to help fight it." During the event, teams keep at least one member walking at all times. Relay is based on the idea that cancer never sleeps and neither will Middlebury Relayers until we've found a cure," said Corbett.

Get outside week exposed

Marie Horbar

Freshmen Dan Kane and Sierra Murdoch, who boldly slept in tents during Get Outside Week, prepare a meal.

By Michael Murali
Staff Writer

Starting Sunday, Jan. 15, Middlebury students participated in the first annual Get Outside Week, an event co-sponsored by the Sunday Night Group, Climb High and the Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC). The program was aimed at luring students outside into the Vermont winter and drawing attention to global climate change.

"Tent City," as Get Outside Week participants dubbed their outdoor community, was set up on Battell Beach across from Forest Hall. Although some of the equipment was brought by students, most was loaned by the MMC and Climb High. Emphasizing the MMC's generosity, Head Guide Lynne Zummo '06 said she saw the event as an opportunity to get her group more involved with environmental issues on campus.

To occupy the participants, several activities were arranged. "We wanted a wide variety of activities that would attract a diverse range of attendees," said Claire Polfus '08. In addition to the lectures, there was an ice climbing trip, a ski race, an art show, knitting classes, a Quidditch match and an a capella concert. These events culminated in a feast at Weybridge House on Friday night featuring local food.

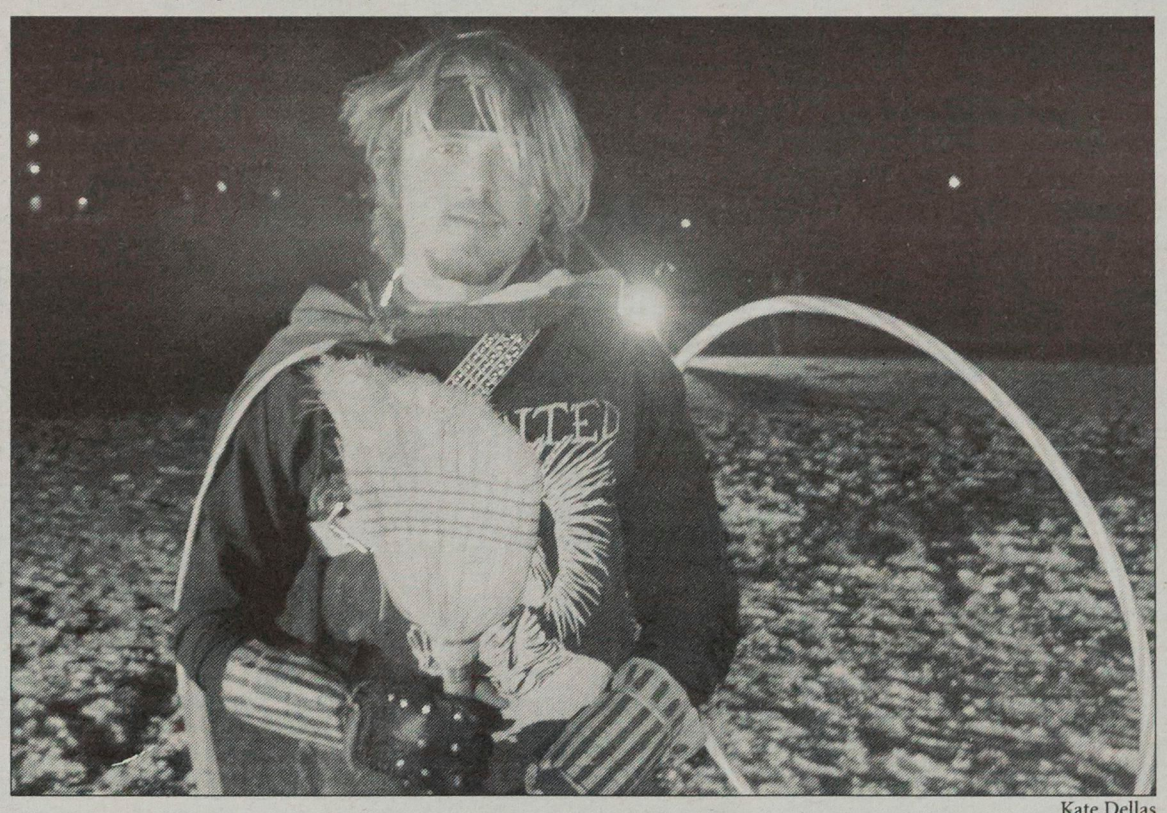
Polfus conceived the idea for Get Outside Week and presented it earlier this year at a Sunday Night Group meeting focused on climate change. Zummo, who coordinated the week's activities with Polfus, said the purpose of Get Outside Week is "to get folks outside and get people psyched about winter." She added that it has been important for students "to realize that our environment is changing and that we probably won't continue to have winters like we have been having."

Throughout the week, participants braved inclement weather every night in Tent City and went on field trips, attended lectures and listened to a capella concerts during the day. Global climate change was the topic of lectures by Middlebury faculty members Jon Isham, Matt Landis and Jennifer Post, as well as Scholar-in-Residence Bill McKibben. Crowds of students stood outside to listen to these talks, which focused on the issues of winter ecology and changing weather patterns. The speakers expressed their concerns with rising temperatures and stressed that raising awareness is imperative to tackle the issue of global warming.

Severe weather fluctuations throughout the week seemed to fittingly emphasize this argument: when several days of snow turned to warm weather and heavy rain on Wednesday, the organizers felt that it truly demonstrated their point that students need to get outside and take advantage of the Vermont winter while it lasts.

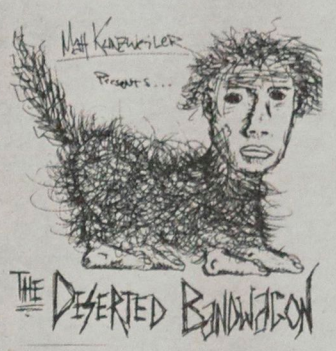
Get Outside Week also served to bring attention to the Sunday Night Group, which meets every weekend and splits up into smaller committees where students discuss their ideas for new activities at the College. Said Get Outside Week Head Monitor Daniel Kane '09, "Get Outside Week was important because it was a very public way to bring attention to the work of the Sunday Night Group [and] the most pressing environmental issue of today, global climate change."

The participants who lived in Tent City found the experience enjoyable and worthwhile in spite of the rainy weather. Victor Larsen '09 said that his favorite part of the experience was sleeping in tents with friends: "Those who know a lot about it or were involved in planning it were ecstatic about having fun outside." Added Emily Wheeler '07, "One of the best parts of sleeping outside was waking up, unzipping the tent door and seeing what the weather was. There is something so grounding about being that close to the elements."



Kate Dellas

Alex Benepe '09 plays quidditch in the spirit of a true Harry Potter fan last Monday on McCullough Lawn.



BY MATT KUNZWEILER

We've all been bombarded by e-mail scams – desperate missives from affable foreigners who need to transfer millions of dollars into the United States. Curious to find out how desperate and patient these scammers really are, I recently decided to create a Hotmail account and play along.

"Mr. Alexander Gedike" claimed to be the personal secretary to the "Richest Man in Russia" – an oil tycoon recently imprisoned by the Russian government, his funds frozen. I told Alex I was willing and able to help him transfer $35 million into the United States before the Russian government could seize it. I was to receive a 10 percent cut for my assistance.

My name was Haywood Jay, a landscape architect from Texas. Alex and I exchanged several e-mails on which we built a foundation of honesty and trust. I offered him my personal information and even asked delightfully inane questions about Russia, especially about those little dolls that fit inside each other: "How can you Russians craft such detailed art in such a cold climate? Don't your fingers get too numb?" Alex was a good sport.

He eventually put me in contact with the manager of the "Hilton Bank" in London, where the funds were being held. "Reverend Peter Clark" told me that in order to unfreeze the $35 million, I'd have to wire $6,500 to one "Francis Lauren" at a non-descript address in Essex.

But then the plot thickened. Alex sent an urgent e-mail, pleading me to wire the money immediately, because his "lovely wife" was suddenly stricken with a life-threatening case of throat cancer! If I didn't activate the account in the next 24 hours, he wouldn't be able to access enough money to pay for his wife's "life-saving Operation."

After a week of stalling, I "came clean," explaining that I had forwarded all our correspondences to the FBI, which, via the Patriot Act, could order Yahoo! Inc. and Microsoft to disclose the contents of his online e-mail accounts. Alex never responded.

Of course, at the same time I was also Amanda Lewis-Bell, a veterinarian from Cleveland who first contacted Alex a week after Haywood first did. A couple days after Haywood's final correspondence, Alex told Amanda about his wife suddenly contracting throat cancer. Amanda told him she was praying several times a day for his wife. But then (writing as Amanda) I told Alex that I had just received an e-mail from the FBI which explained the structure of his scam, how there was really no money, no dying wife, no Alexander Gedike. "How could you?" I asked. "I cried when you told me about your wife."

But relentless Alex wouldn't withstand the accusations. He tugged at my heartstrings with winsome lines such as, "Please I will love to conclude this transaction with you and also travel down to the USA to meet with you and thank you in person. I will come with my whole family too. So that my wife can see her guardian Angel who God used to spare her life." It took Alex three heart-rending e-mails to win back my trust.

But as I dragged the process out, asking insipid questions and blathering, Alex grew impatient – and then blindsided me. He told me he had tried calling me and found the number disconnected. He wrote, "For all I care you could an imaginary, faceless person with the intentions of assisting me to transfer the funds to his/her account then disappear with the money." The irony!

But it was true. In one of the early stages of the scam I had supplied him with seven random digits after Cleveland's area code. Luckily I had chosen a disconnected number. I told him that the number was disconnected because I had defaulted on my phone bill for the sake of putting another $40 towards the $6,500 needed to activate the account and save his wife.

Then, after convincing him that I was simultaneously being duped by an identically structured scam (I told him about an Indian widow with a large yet endangered fortune – and her infant son who'd just been kidnapped for ransom), ever-faithful Alex upped the ante to beat his competition, offering me twice as much as before – a $7 million cut!

Okay, I said. But before I would wire the money I first wanted to hear his voice. And since he couldn't reach me at my phone, I needed his number. After withholding it for weeks he finally gave me his "European cell phone." The country code was Spain's. I ran a Google search and found the number linked to three similar e-mail scams, two of them run out of Nigeria. I called the number, pretending to be Amanda. He picked up and as soon as I said, "Hello, Alex?" in a high, breathy voice, the comedy began. His accent was blatantly African, but he was trying to sound Russian. How he pleaded and ranted in that absurd voice! Invoked God! And I was imitating a woman. My voice cracked twice when I told him he had won my faith and compliance.

All in all, we exchanged over 40 e-mails and several forged documents. And in that final e-mail, when I told him I had scanned the receipt of the precious $6,500 wire transfer and attached it as a jpeg – imagine his surprise when he opened the attachment to see a photo of The Fonz giving two thumbs up, the caption: "Sit on it!"

Midd activists embark on civil rights tour

By Dina Magaril
Features Editor

While many in the Middlebury community commemorated Martin Luther King's Birthday by attending the ceremony at Mead Chapel, one group of students decided to take a trip to King's birthplace. Middlebury students, accompanied by Professor of History Jim Ralph '82 and Associate Professor of American Literature and Civilization Will Nash, traveled through Alabama and Georgia on a tour of civil rights monuments.

The trip, which was funded by the office of the Dean of the College, the Office for Institutional Diversity and PALANA, was created to give students at Middlebury the chance to see firsthand the experiences of the Civil Rights Movement. The trip was open to all Middlebury students and Ralph said he received more applications than funding allowed spaces. Other participants included student activists from colleges throughout the Northeast as well as groups who were committed to nonviolence as a way of advancing social change across the world. Though the Middlebury students picked to participate in the unique program were diverse in respect to their backgrounds, Ralph said each student was connected by his or her commitment to activism.

Bernard LaFayette, a good friend of Ralph's and an expert on the topic of civil rights, traveled with the Middlebury students for a majority of the trip. LaFayette was deeply involved in the civil rights movement throughout his life. He was one of the earliest participants in the movement against segregation in Nashville in 1960, a freedom rider and grass roots activist and one of the top assistants to Dr. Martin Luther King. LaFayette recalled many of his own experiences as he accompanied the students on their bus trip.

"The bus was used as a classroom," said Ralph, which meant the students were constantly stimulated throughout their four-day trip, which included stops in Montgomery, Birmingham, Selma and Atlanta. Once aboard the bus students watched a historical video about the city they were visiting and then discussed the footage. Students then had the opportunity to learn about these experiences firsthand from people who had actually lived them, like LaFayette. "I don't think public schools teach about this time period in history as well as they could. You know, we always learn about Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X but we don't learn about the countless others who sacrificed their time, their energy and even their lives fighting for what is right," said Azaria Shaw '08, one of the students who attended the trip. In a conversation Ralph had with Nash, Ralph said Nash described the bus as a "rolling seminar," picking up bits of history from every person they met and every city visited.

Among the highlights was a stop in Selma, Ala., where students met a family who housed Dr. King in 1965 during the voting rights movement. Ralph described the trip as particularly vivid and memorable, as it fully engaged the students throughout their intense trip. Ralph hopes the program will be continued next year, giving more Middlebury students the chance to experience history where it originally occurred.

Art curating class takes over NYC

By Mallory Falk
Staff Writer

Courtesy
Emmie Donadio discusses plans to buy art in New York City for the Middlebury College Museum of Art.

After 16 years as chief curator of the Middlebury College Museum of Art, Emmie Donadio has taken on a new role: Winter Term professor. Her class, Curatorial Practicum, is less of a traditional History of Art and Architecture course than novel experiment. Though students complete many standard assignments — writing papers, making PowerPoint presentations, researching artists online — they also, less conventionally, take the lead: by the term's end, they will choose contemporary artwork for the Museum collection. "This class [is] a great hands-on introduction to the business side of the art world," says Katherine Franklin '05.5. "I really feel like [we're accomplishing] something."

Curatorial Practicum has been six years in the making. In 1999, an alumna set up an acquisition fund, allowing Middlebury students to select and purchase photography, film and video art. History of Art and Architecture, Studio Art, and Film and Media Culture majors and minors joined Donadio in the decision-making process — additional help came from those involved in the Museum Assistance Program. Though students were central to the project, Donadio did much of the work, finding artists and sorting through research materials. The group made its selections from slides and JPEGs. The project was a success, but Donadio sought something more intensive. "[I thought] it would be best if students could see the works first-hand," she says.

So began the push for Curatorial Practicum. Donadio designed a class that gave students more control over and access to the artwork. Culminating in a four day trip to a number of New York galleries, Curatorial Practicum provides students with a true buyer's perspective. The six members of Donadio's class – who range from first-years to senior Febs and all have strong backgrounds in the arts, now do most of the research themselves and even recommend artists for consideration. In New York, they will meet with the artists and view selected photographs up close. The class will visit between 14 and 16 galleries, some of which currently employ Middlebury alumni. Donadio hopes to stop by a couple of artist galleries and art museums as well.

After the trip, students will be better able to choose pieces for the collection. They must decide whether to acquire a few large works or several smaller, less expensive pieces. The group typically purchases three to four photographs but, as Donadio notes, the students may choose to "spend all the money on one acquisition or get something less known that costs less."

Curatorial Practicum is a rare course offering. Donadio knows of only two other schools with a similar program. Students are given a great deal of responsibility: they are trusted to spend the endowment wisely and select strong contemporary works. "This is serious business," Donadio says. She admits that the project is still an experiment, but believes that both she and her students have benefited greatly from the class. "One could argue for doing this in a semester," Donadio says, admitting that she would like to continue and perhaps even expand the course. Thanks to the alumna donation, Curatorial Practicum could receive funding for another four years. Franklin agrees. "I think the class has been a success," she says. "We've learned a great deal about a wide variety of contemporary photographers and video artists, some well-established and others a bit more cutting edge and have made well-informed decisions about which artists would best serve the purposes of our museum."

World Briefs

— By Caroline Vial

World Social Forum in Mali

Bamako, Mali — From Jan. 19-23, Africa hosted the World Social Forum for the first time since its inception in 2001. The presence of nearly 30,000 delegates representing 260 NGOs and organizations from all five continents marked a "turning point" in history according to the Senegalese paper, *Wal Fadjri*.

Globalization, world debt, the end of agricultural subsidies and regional integration were part of the themes addressed in Bamako.

Citizens opposed to globalization qualified the event as a "victory." As one antiglobalist explained, "African countries have had the most problems in the world. It is for them that global civil society fights. By coming to Mali, people will be exposed to our realities and will see the combat led from the very base by our populations and our NGOs, our governors, to get out of poverty."

The organizers decided this year to create a forum at-large, which will be geared more specifically toward the problems in Africa.

The Forum has previously been held four times in Porto Alegre, Brasil and once in Bombay, India.

— *Wal Fadjri*, Dakar

Animal Rights activists stage nude protest

Madrid — Baring all in chilly weather, animal rights activists staged a naked protest Saturday in northeastern Barcelona to denounce the torture and slaying of animals to make fur coats.

Representing the number of minks it takes on average to make a fur coat, the 70 men and women lay curled up on the pavement outside Barcelona city hall.

The protest, staged by AnimaNaturalis and PETA international animal rights groups, was observed by several dozen passers-by.

In a statement, AnimaNaturalis said millions of animals were captured, tortured and killed each year to make fur coats. In Spain alone, 26 million animals - among them rabbits, foxes, minks and lambs - were killed in 2003 to make coats, the group said.

"If people could see the animals in fur farms, they would never use a fur coat," AnimaNaturalis president Leonora Esquivel, said in the statement. "The look on those animals' faces stays in your mind, a look that says: 'Why?'"

— *The Associated Press*

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Eli and JS	Eli and JS
So much drama and more publicity that the SGA and Community Council have received all year. We love it.	It's like being in the middle of a divorce. Ouch.
Snowleopard	Tigercat
So trendy. So indimidating. So much more cat-like than serval.	Snowleopard pounces on tigercat and eats him.
Cook prom, jungle style	Sound failure, WRMC style
Jungle Boogie with Dean Dave shows that the commons can get down.	What?!? I can't hear you! No wait, now I can't hear the song! Wait, now I can just hear that girl screaming! Make it stop!

Virtual athletes battle for bragging rights

By Bobby Joe Smith
Staff Writer

Sunday, Jan. 22, was a thrilling night in the world of competitive sports. The Steelers and the Seahawks both won conference championships and a place in Superbowl XL, and offensive juggernaut Kobe Bryant dropped 81 points against the Toronto Raptors, setting three new NBA records in scoring. But on the small campus of Middlebury College, at a locale known simply as "The Grille," the competition was just beginning to heat up.

The annual Middlebury College Video Game Tournament was about to begin — the best of the Middlebury gaming community were set to face off in an epic controller-to-controller battle royale for prizes, a year's worth of bragging rights and the coveted status of "gaming legend." The big screen T.V. was wheeled on stage, controllers were unwound and a set of cushioned swivel chairs were meticulously positioned in order to provide the maximum in gaming and viewing entertainment for the cyber-athletes and the throng of cyber-fans that were sure to appear. Who could blame them?

It was hard not to get sucked into the spin-tingling buzz sparked by the mere thought of motherboards and high-speed processing chips, not to mention a gaming inventory riddled with classic titles such as Tekken 4, Gran Turismo, NCAA Football, Burnout 3, Topspin Tennis, Fifa Soccer and — of course — the piece de resistance, Halo 2. Clearly it was going to be a night that would go down in history, sure to feature heroic last second touchdowns and gladiatorial bloodbaths that can come only from the glorious unbridled unity of man and machine.

Finally, the clock struck 11 P.M., and from the dark recesses of the cyber-café emerged the steely eyed warrio — all three of them. Nick Immonje '08, Andrew Einstein '07 and Aaron Strumwasser '06 gathered hesitantly around the X-Box, a look of utter confusion illuminating their faces from the glimmer of the big screen. Grille Committee Member Patch Culbertson '08 popped up to greet us from the tangled web of electrical wires spilling out the back end of the glowing box.

The night included only one legitimate tournament among its competitors. However, neither Culbertson nor the Grille Committee seemed to mind, since according to them the event was about meeting people and having fun, two things that the competitor accomplished that night.

The idea for the tournament originated from the "Sierra Club," a group of Middlebury students who like to play games competitively online and use the College's LAN system at Sunderland. "We just decided to replicate the same fun competitive nature at the Grille, which we felt was a far less sketchy venue. That was originally what the cyber-café was used for back when this tournament was run by a few die-hard gamers here on campus," explained Culbertson. Unfortunately, all of them are no longer enrolled here, "likely because of all the hours they spent playing video games instead of working or sleeping," he postulated. This year the Grille Committee decided to take matters into its own hands "and just kind of throw this event out there and see what would happen."

For those who participated, it wasn't bad. "The conditions for this tournament were excellent!" exclaimed Strumwasser. "There were only a handful of competitors, and the activities required absolutely no legitimate skill to succeed." Despite the tournament's low number of participants, it was hard not to walk away with a sense of optimism.

Who knows what the future holds for this tournament? It's entirely up to the student body. This campus has the resources to accommodate multiple large gaming arenas. Can you imagine playing Halo 2 or Madden on the giant screens in John M. McCardell, Jr. Bicentennial Hall or at The Grille? The Grille Committee is willing to put forth the funds for better prizes, food and the latest games and game consoles if it is something students demonstrated a legitimate interest. There are plenty of kids who play video games on campus, and many claim to be the best. What could be a better way to prove it then in tournaments such as this?

The next Varsity sport at Middlebury? With the real courts frozen over, students battle it out indoors at The Grille.

SUDOKU: round II

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

— Mary Claire Evans

All you need is snow

Kimberly Bowker

After a week of unusually warm weather, Middlebury students rejoiced at the first signs of snow. Some members of the community took advantage of skiing and sledding opportunities. Others expressed their winterly appreciation more artistically, leaving creative messages for the whole student body to enjoy. On this monument to Storr's walk an anonymous passerby left his or her this inspired inscription in the freshly fallen snow.

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SPOTLIGHT ON POPULAR STUDENT BAND

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SPIELBERG'S SECOND EFFORT DEPICTING TERRORISM BETTER THAN THE FIRST

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'BE MY ENEMY'
DANCE PERFORMANCE EXPLORES THE NATURE OF AN ENEMY

Kiss Me Deadly brings Midd to life

Montreal quartet joins The Easy Answers to rock out

By Melissa Marshall
Staff Writer

Emily Elizabeth, the gender-bending lead singer of Kiss Me Deadly, had the audience chanting "We are all alone" at the end of their show last Friday night. However, no one was alone in the sweltering Coltrane Lounge where music lovers and intoxicated undergraduates, looking to shake off their stress through music and dance, filled the small social space.

Even if the crowd did somewhat thin after student band The Easy Answer's surprisingly stellar performance, the energized audience was in grand company throughout the entire show. The Easy Answers, comprised of Perry Blackshear '05, Jay Harbison '05, JJ Hurvich '08.5, Lucas Kavner '06.5 and Duncan Cooper '06, started the night off well. Their mix of strong riffs and captivating vocals had the audience enthralled and bopping in turns.

An obvious crowd favorite was their cover of The Arcade Fire's "Rebellion (Lies)," a track off of the Montreal band's debut album "Funeral" which enjoyed great popularity on college radio since its release in 2004. Emily Temple '08.5 said of the opening act, "They're an awesome student band, and they know what songs to play to please the crowd."

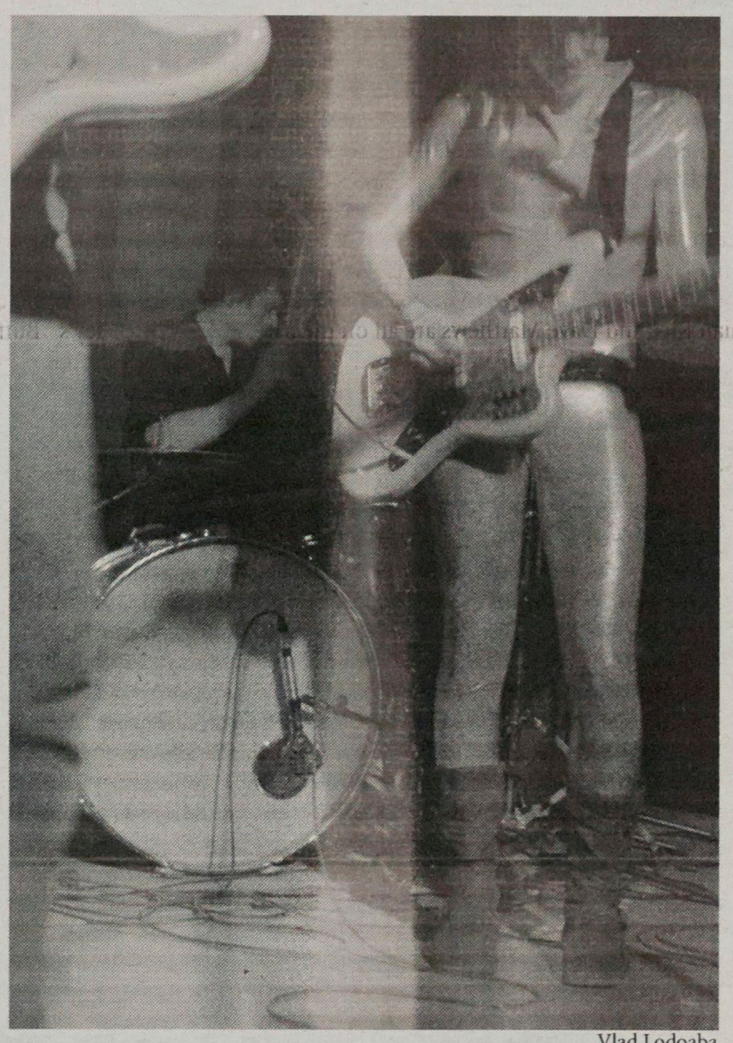
What the feature band lacked in conventionally crowd-pleasing tunes, they made up for in stage presence. The Montreal based quartet, comprised of Emily Elizabeth (vocals and guitar), Adam Poulin (guitar and vocals), Mathieu de Montier (bass and vocals) and Erik Peterson (drums), had a noticeable connection with each other — maybe due to the fact Elizabeth and Poulin used to be high school sweethearts — and with the audience. Elizabeth joked with the crowd, explaining her orange, skin-tight outfit as an attempt to win a costume contest and even invited a student up on stage to sing with her. While still professional, they exhibited the inherent, unpretentious grunginess that comes from the fresh memory of having to practice in laundry rooms — as could be seen when Elizabeth climbed to the top of a speaker and leaped back onto the stage.

Vlad Lodoaba

Adam Poulin and Emily Elizabeth of the Montreal group, Kiss Me Deadly, perform to a packed house in Coltrane Lounge last Friday night. Though the band was plagued by sound problems, students gave them generally positive reviews.

Not all was fun and games as early sound problems, including massive feedback and an inability to hear Elizabeth's haunting vocals, plagued the band all through their set. However, not everyone in the audience was overly pleased to have Elizabeth's microphone turned back on, especially when she would go into high-pitched screaming fits at the end of numbers.

Amanda Kleinman '09 said, "I didn't think Kiss Me Deadly performed particularly innovative music, and they didn't showcase any range of songs. The musicians, particularly the vocalist, relied heavily on their volume. It was hard to recognize the talent of each performer or to enjoy the music. Each performer played (or sang) so loudly that my ears hurt, and I had a lot of difficulty trying to decipher the melodies or the lyrics." Thomas Carroll, a visiting student from Occidental College in Los Angeles, agreed that "the vocals were definitely hit or miss," but added that "they had killer stage presence."



Vlad Lodoaba

Elizabeth entertains the crowd with a spandex suit and crazy antics, such as jumping on top of a speaker and leaping back on stage.

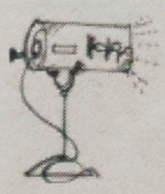
Vlad Lodoaba

Students pack into Coltrane to hear student band The Easy Answers.

Critics compare the band, which was named after a 1955 film noir, to such acts as Echo and the Bunnymen, The Sugarcubes, and Sonic Youth, while Elizabeth claims such influences as Kim Deal, Kate Bush, and Madonna's "The Immaculate Collection."

But Kiss Me Deadly certainly has a sound all their own. When asked what they would like to accomplish in the music industry, Elizabeth answered, "world domination," without hesitation. Guitarist Poulin added, "Have you ever seen 'Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure,' and the only way the world could communicate was through music? That's what I want to do. I want to communicate through my music."

Communication may have been an issue on Friday night, whether it was faulty mikes or incoherent vocals, but Elizabeth summed the experience up correctly when she asked the audience to "get out of their heads and into their hearts." Music is meant to be felt and not understood—and by looking at the contorted expression on Elizabeth's face as she screamed/sung through the set, the audience was forced to feel. When asked for closing remarks, Peterson lightheartedly added, "play hard and have fun." Well, the band played hard, and the concert-goers had fun.



Spotlight on... Larson

Four of the six band members were interviewed for this article:

Conor Sheldon- Vocals, Rhythm Guitar, Alto Saxophone,
Josh Bookin - Vocals, Lead Guitar,
Alex Banys - Percussion, Drums
Christopher Nielson - Keys, Piano, Synth.

The Middlebury Campus: Who is Larson? When did you come together as a band?

Sheldon: We're just an eclectic group of fun, young college guys who love to rock really hard. In terms of other college bands, we'd like to think that Larson is a beast of a different color... we'd like to think that we're bringing a new flavor to the palette...but even if we're not, we know that we believe in what we're playing... we love the sound that we've cultivated thus far, and we're ever-so-grateful to have people who seem to embrace what we have to offer.

Kathrin Schwesinger

Bookin: The current and final lineup in its full form took hold at the beginning of this year, but we have been plugging away since the end of my freshman year.

The Campus: How would you describe your sound?

Banys: A soulful jam band with a hip-hop edge.

Nielson: Earthy techno-pop.

The Campus: Who are your influences?

Bookin: Mine personally include David Gilmour of The Pink Floyd, Trey/Michael Kang, Tony Rice, and I'd have to say Elliott Smith, though it may not always show it.

Sheldon: I'm the more bubble gum-pop oriented member of the band, so I'll just keep the full description of 'those' influences to a minumum. But I will say that The Killers, U2, Maroon Five, Keith Jarrett, Michael Jackson, The Police, Damian Rice and Dave Matthews are all on the list.

The Campus: You just came out with a CD; how was the recording process?

Banys: We're very happy with the outcome considering we produced everything ourselves in a homemade studio. We spent all of spring break at 202 Weybridge recording long into the night. If it wasn't for the generosity of so many of our friends, none of this would have happened.

Sheldon: This week, in fact, we hit the studio again to record three or four brand-new songs that I think are the best stuff we've written yet... it's a very exciting time.

The Campus: Any other future plans on getting your music outside the midd bubble?

Banys: We have our music up on CDbaby.com and at our website: http://www.myspace.com/experiencelarson. We are also trying to book summer dates for a van tour across the country this summer.

The Campus: Why do you think student bands and the music they create are important on campus?

Bookin: Bottom line, when you walk into a room with drinks and people and heat, would you rather be listening to the stereo or friends of yours playing their hearts out? I'm just a sucka for live music.

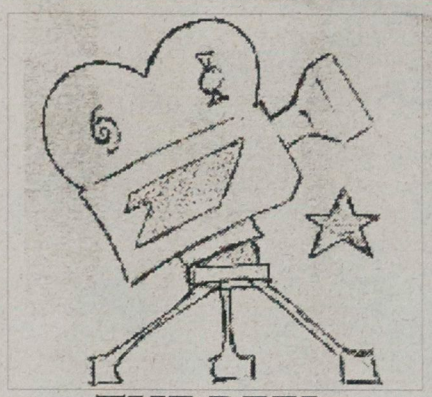
Nielson: Student bands are another great way to release the diverse skills the students of this campus have. They also liven the social scene and provide new sounds that diverge from pop.

Sheldon: I think it is phenomenal that the administration has begun to recognize the importance of music, especially that of bands on campus. When you really think about it, music represents the sole form of expression for many students. I have no idea how much money we spend on athletics, but similarly, this is the only outlet for some individuals and the school should support it accordingly.

The Campus: Do you have a favorite Midd concert memory?

Bookin: Mine would have to be the Mill's Stop Making Sense party. With an hour left in the party and our setlist already completed, we jammed on basic progressions for 45 minutes, concluding with an a capella die down of Bob Marley's "Buffalo Soldier," the crowd joined Conor and me in singing and pretty soon all you could hear were drum sticks keeping the beat and about 150 voices singing why-eye-oh! One of my happiest moments as a musician.

— Alexxa Gotthardt



THE REEL CRITIC

BY GABE BROUGHTON

MOVIE | MUNICH
DIRECTOR | STEVEN SPIELBERG
STARRING | ERIC BANA

"Munich" is Steven Spielberg's second film in a year to deal at least obliquely with terrorism. Spielberg and his star, Tom Cruise, were quite vocal about their shared enthusiasm for the applicability of "War of the Worlds" to global terrorism. Of course, "War of the Worlds" concerned terrorism about as much as "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" was a metaphor for the modern marriage; that is, in premise only. "Munich," the better of Spielberg's two efforts, takes on terrorism more directly.

The film begins with the kidnap and murder of 11 Israelis at the 1972 Olympics by the terrorist organization Black September. This event serves as the catalyst for the action of the film. Next, Spielberg does something interesting: he provides an extended montage of archival news footage from 1972, including appearances by Jim McKay and Peter Jennings. "Munich," "inspired by real events," as it was introduced, is certainly not a historical document. By breaking down the wall between historical document and historical fiction, however, Spielberg is demonstrating a seriousness of engagement. He gains a bit of trust with this maneuver, combined with the comforting voice of now-deceased Peter Jennings. Spielberg, even in his past ventures into historical fiction (see "Schindler's List," "Saving Private Ryan"), has shown a sensibility that tends towards black and white, hope and despair. This is part of what makes him a consummate storyteller. With "Munich," Spielberg ventures into shades of gray. He wishes to incite discussion rather than provide an easy answer.

That being said, it wouldn't be a Spielberg film without a compelling narrative. "Munich" is by no means a dry, lecture hall experience. The main action of the film is the story of five Israelis operating in deep cover to assassinate 11 men supposedly responsible for the planning and execution of the Munich massacre. So it's an action film, but deliberately paced at the same time. The assassinations unfold with a sort of staged elegance, even as they are continually botched and complicated.

The anti-terrorist agents gain humanity with their limited skill as assassins. The team is headed by Avner (Eric Bana) and includes a toy-maker (who can also make bombs) and a man whose job is "to worry." In other words, this is not a film that embraces the genre type of the super-spy. There are no James Bonds or Jason Bournes in this picture. There are only people. Bombs are made incorrectly. One man is unable to finish his mission for moral reasons. When Avner and another agent come across their first target, an elderly man holding a bag of groceries, Avner nearly lowers his gun. Spielberg goes to considerable lengths to create fully-realized, even likable members of the Black September organization. Eventually, we are to realize that almost everyone involved is participating in violence to protect or avenge their country and their family — often interchangeable concepts. They are killing out of a sense of moral responsibility, but violence begets violence. One character remarks that it may be 100 years before the fighting is done. Now, over 30 years later, I fear it may take longer than that.

Avner is the main character and the moral eye of the film, and Bana plays him skillfully. Avner's wife is pregnant when he is called upon by the Israeli Prime Minister to go on a mission about which he can tell no one, and which may last for years. Out of a sense of duty to his country and his home Avner accepts the mission. Because of the kind of man he is, and the circumstances in which he operates, Avner must not give away too much. Bana knows this and allows the character's humanity to resonate subtly before exploding at the film's close when he is forced to grapple with what he has done, and the haunting realization that he might have compromised his own morality for nothing. As one terrorist leader falls, another replaces him, equally ruthless.

Israel continues to be subject to terrorism. Much of the film is actually about the idea of home. A home for the Jews, for the Palestinians. The irony of the film is that as Avner kills to protect his home, he is taken further and further from it, across Europe and eventually moving his family from Israel to Brooklyn. It is in New York that Spielberg ends the film, with a shot of two standing towers.

WRMC 91.1 FM
On Rotation

BY BENJAMIN GOLZE

Canada

looks better every day.

When prompted as to the best that the Canadian music industry has to offer, most Americans would probably identify only Celine Dion, if anyone at all. As far as I can tell, since Robbie Robertson left The Band in 1976, the Great White North has had little to offer their friendly southern neighbors in the way of quality audio entertainment. According to the unwashed masses at Wikipedia (on whose opinion I am basing this entire column), the Canadian industry managed to export only such middling acts as Sum 41 and Rush. Not exactly the most inspiring stuff.

The loads of new music that comes pouring into the WRMC mailbox each week, however, seem to be telling a different story. The music scenes in Toronto and Montreal are producing as much raw output as the enduring American indie machines in places like Seattle, Austin, and Athens, GA. What's more, as we separate the proverbial wheat from the metaphorical chaff, more and more Canadian bands such as, say, the Arcade Fire, are rising to the top.

What is it about Canada that has recently led to such an aural smorgasbord for indie kids across America? Do coonskin caps provide better natural acoustics? Does nationalized health care allow for more investment in aspiring rock stars? Or do 10-month winters mean more time is spent inside writing music? Only Paul Martin knows the answer, and he hasn't been returning my calls. Instead, I suggest you grab your headphones and a flannel shirt, as I present a run-down of Canadian groups, both new and old, worthy of your attention.

The supergroups: Broken Social Scene and the New Pornographers

These Toronto- and Vancouver-based collectives have been peddling their quite different versions of indie rock for quite some time. The former hit it big again with the October 2005 release of their self-titled third album (see the 11/3/05 edition of *The Campus)*, while the New Pornographers' latest, titled "Twin Cinema," features another flawless line-up of songs based on the best pop-hooks in music history. Yeah, I said it.

The new arrivals: the Golden Dogs

Straight out of somewhere in Ontario (my money's on Toronto), the Golden Dogs transcend their stupid band name on their debut album, "Everything in Three Parts." According to promotional materials and the enigmatic blogosphere, the Golden Dogs put on the best live show since sliced bread, and I can believe it. They take the best parts of Wolf Parade and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah! and mix it up into straightforward rock that goes right to your gut. Ooof!

The farmers: Great Lake Swimmers

This group recorded their self-titled first album in a grain silo in Southern Ontario, and not because they're poor, but because it sounds cool, and is entirely appropriate for the haunting alt-country and soaring vocals that are their trademarks. Great Lake Swimmers' second album, "Bodies and Minds" was released stateside last fall, and it pulls their expansive sound down into more conventional pop song structures. My entire conception of Ontario is based on Great Lake Swimmers — lots of nothing filled with fantastic music.

The fake Canadians: Kiss Me Deadly

As I was taking down equipment after last Friday's concert, I overheard that at least one band member is from Massachusetts. However, that imposter didn't keep the Montreal quartet from rocking Coltrane to the ground and then leading the crowd into the kicking-est dance party since McCullough '01. And the melodic dance pop on their album, "Misty Medley," is pretty good, too.

Dance performance inspired by current events

By Ellen Grafton
Staff Writer

Artist-in-residence and Artistic director of the Middlebury Dance Program Amy Chavasse along with members of the Middlebury Dance Company, gave a preview Tuesday afternoon of their upcoming performance, "Enemies." The preview included an informal presentation of two pieces from the show and comments from Chavasse and the students regarding the artistic process behind the show.

"Enemies" explores the idea of enemies through a mixture of dance, text and visual elements. The usually black floor of the dance studio is covered in white to lend itself to the light projections designed by Sue Rees, an internationally recognized artist and faculty member at Bennington College.

The visuals were described by Chavasse but not shown at the preview. One of the visual elements that will be used is a projection of "The Walrus and the Carpenter" by Lewis Caroll, animated by Sue Rees and narrated by artist-in-residence Alex Draper. Chavasse said she chose to include that piece of animation because she has always "found the story to be a strong example of betrayal."

Chavasse explained that "Enemies" was inspired in part by her personal reaction to the release of the photographs from Abu Ghraib. The cruelty done to other human beings by people who shared a nationality with Chavasse made her question whether she could have done the same thing in those circumstances. It then led her to question the very idea of an enemy. Chavasse said she asked herself, "How do you become a person who can think of someone as so inferior and subhuman that he becomes an enemy that you do things to?"

Chavasse, known for her irreverent commentary on current events, opens the work with a dynamic solo that investigates the concept of enemies. Company members will also perform a revised version of "I Will Spare You," a quirky and kinetic quartet with an original score by Middlebury College Music Director for Dance Michael Chorney that was first presented in 2003. Following that, the New York-based company Everything Smaller will join DCM to perform "Spatula Sound Check," a humorous duet originally created and performed in 2001 by Chavasse and former Middlebury College Visiting Artist in Dance and Theatre Peter Schmitz.

The first piece previewed was the solo opening piece by Chavasse. Through a mixture of text, dance and music Chavasse explores what an enemy is, what makes people enemies and whether it is human nature to have antagonistic relations with others. Chavasse invites the audience into these ideas, challenging them, saying "Be my enemy tonight, just for a little bit." Her text in the opening piece draws largely from the recently released National Security Archives.

The Archives invesitgated claims made against the United States that they had tortured Iraqi prisoners in the Abu Ghraib prison camp.

The second piece that was previewed featured student members of the Middlebury Dance Company Colin Penley '06, Kate Elias '06, Hannah Giles '06, Adriane Medina '08 and Martha Ann Underhill '07. Featuring the music of Sammy Davis Jr.'s "I've Gotta Be Me," the dancers moved sometimes in unison and sometimes in competition with each other, exploring the various tactics and types of enemies through dance. The piece was partly inspired by surveys given to Middlebury Campus students about the nature of enemies. Chavasse noted that "one of the students, when asked to define an enemy, said that they are 'People with whom you are most alike.'"

When asked how the pieces are choreographed, the dancers explained that the process is largely collaborative. "We use core phrases that we learned from Amy and then we work with them," said Kate Elias '06. Chavasse agreed, and explained that many of the basic phrases in the performance come from the original auditions, and jokingly referred to one of them as the "Shakira phase."

"Enemies" will be performed Friday, January 27 and Saturday, January 28 at 8 p.m. in the dance studio at the CFA. Tickets are on sale at the box office for $5.

In addition to this annual performance, the current DCM tour includes travel to Arizona State University (ASU) and Prescott College to perform, present workshops and participate in classes with Dance Arizona Repertory Theater, from Jan. 31–Feb. 9.

Their visit includes performing and working with students at Herrera High School in Tempe, Ariz. The company will observe rehearsals by ASU graduate students in preparation for their Emerging Choreographers Concert and offer classes in improvisation. The group will also rehearse at the Nest Dance Sanctuary in Jerome, Ariz., beside Mingus Mountain.

Courtesy

The Dance Company of Middlebury will appear in the premiere of a new work titled "Enemies" during the company's annual performance on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 27-28, at 8 p.m. in the College's Center for the Arts Dance Theatre.

Courtesy

Artist-in-Residence in Dance Amy Chavasse

Anais Returns

Vlad Lodoaba

Bringing to life a Middlebury College Activities Board sponsored coffee house Monday night, Middlebury alumna Anais Mitchell '04 rocked out in The Grille, entertaining a large crowd. Mitchell performed songs from her critically acclaimed 2004 album, "Hymns for the Exiled," as well as some new compositions. Mitchell, a Vermont native, is currently traveling the college and folk circuits in New England, with her next performance taking place on Jan. 24 in Bar Harbor, Maine.

Happy Birthday to Mozart

Vlad Lodoaba

Performing in honor of Mozart's 250th birthday, renowned pianist Dejan Lazic will play pieces by the late composer and Maurice Ravel. Lazic has studied both clarinet and piano and has composed music as well, notably for the gala of Rostroprovich's 70th birthday. Lazic will perform at 8 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall.

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of Jan. 26-30

26

BIG NOISE! KEN BUTLER'S VOICES OF ANXIOUS OBJECTS
8-9 p.m. in Hepburn Zoo
The J-term class BIG NOISE! is pleased to present world-renowned musician and artist Ken Butler's "Voices of Anxious Objects," a mesmerizing performance in which Butler creates world trance beats and melodic gypsy grooves upon a profusion of self-made hybrid instruments. Butler has been creating musical instruments out of everyday objects since 1978 when he transformed an axe into a violin. In the past, he has performed with John Zorn, Laurie Anderson and Butch Morris, has appeared on the Tonight Show, and has work included in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

27

PERFORMING ARTS SERIES: DEJAN LAZIC, PIANO
8-10 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall
World-renowned composer and pianist Dejan Lazic comes to Middlebury this week to perform works by Mozart and Maurice Ravel in honor of the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth. Lazic was born in Zagreb in 1977, studied both clarinet and piano and has composed music including a string quartet for the gala of Rostroprovich's 70th birthday. His concert career includes performances in many major venues including the Vienna Musikverein, the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London and the Frick Collection in New York City.

27

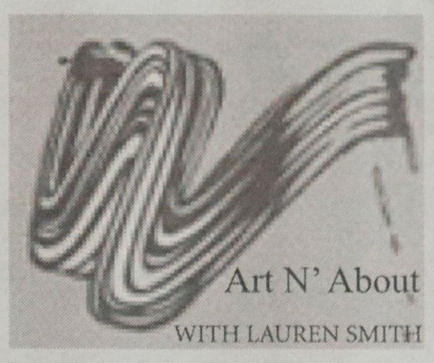
MCAB FREE FRIDAY FILM: PRINCESS BRIDE
7-9 p.m., 9:30-11:30 p.m., 12-2 a.m. in Dana Auditorium
A grandfather sits down with his grandson and reads him a bedtime story that has been passed down from father to son for generations. As the grandfather reads the story, the classic tale of love and adventure comes alive as the beautiful Buttercup is kidnapped and held against her will in order to marry the disgusting Prince Humperdinck. Luckily Westley (her dashing childhood beau, now returned as the Dread Pirate Roberts) and his band of misfits attempt to save her, but not before meeting plenty a bad guy along the way.

27

VACA ART SHOW: "NEVER BEFORE SEEN WORKS BY NEW ARTISTS"
8-10 p.m. Forest Basement
Middlebury student artists will show new work of many-a-medium this Friday in Forest Basement. The show will kick off with great art, good company and the "Middlebury-metro" grooves of jazz quintet Audio Ergo Sum featuring Ari Joseph on sax.

28

DANCE COMPANY OF MIDDLEBURY IN PERFORMANCE
Friday and Saturday 8-10 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre
Tickets: $5/4/3
The Dance Company of Middlebury presents its annual performance this Friday and Saturday. A collaborative effort of Artist in Residence Amy Chavasse and company members, the thought-provoking new work "Enemies" examines the fractious and shifting nature of human and societal conflicts. The multi-media work will include video projections, a musical collage including compositions by drummer/composer Philip Hamilton '82 and text.



On Tuesday, a 77-year-old Frenchman was sentenced to three months in prison and ordered to pay a fine of nearly $300,000. The charge? He attacked the infamous urinal created by Marcel Duchamp during the 1920s Dada art movement with a hammer at an exhibit in Paris, France.

This is not the first time Pierre Pinoncelli has gotten in trouble for his "performance art." In 1993, at an exhibit in Nimes, France, he urinated on the same piece. In a more recent performance, he cut off his own finger as an expression of solidarity with Colombian politician Ingrid Betancourt, held hostage by leftist guerrillas since 2002.

Pinoncelli argued at his sentencing that Duchamp would "have had a good laugh" at his attack. He called the attack, which caused minimal damage to the piece, "a 'wink' at Dadaism." I happen to agree with him, but perhaps he should consider winking at Dadaism when 3.4 million (the estimated worth of the urinal) isn't at stake. He said the piece, which is one of eight versions, is "now an original. " Perhaps Duchamp, who once said he doesn't "believe in art," would have heralded Pinoncelli's actions.

Dadaism emerged in Zurich after World War 1, when artists became disillusioned with a society that could allow the terrors of war. The derivation of the term "dada" is debatable, but one humorous, if questionable, explanation concerns a meeting held in 1916 at Hugo Ball's (an artist and the creator of the Dada manifesto) CabaretVoltaire in Zürich, during which a paper knife inserted into a French-German dictionary pointed to the word "dada"— a child's word for a toy horse. The absurdity of that situation lends itself particularly well to the artwork created by Dada artists, which often was quite absurd.

According to its proponents, Dada was not art — it was "anti-art". For everything that art stood for, Dada was to represent the opposite. Dada ignored aesthetics. Dada strove to have no meaning- hence, the interpretation of Dada is dependent entirely on the viewer. And Dadaism also strove to offend. This is something that Pinoncelli perhaps took too far, at least in the eyes of the French judicial system.

Dadaism seems to be making a big splash this year in the art world, first with Pinoncelli's much-publicized hammer attack and next with possibly the most comprehensive exhibition of Dada art in the United States organized by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and the Museum of Modern Art in Paris in collaboration with the Museum of Modern Art (MoMa) in New York.

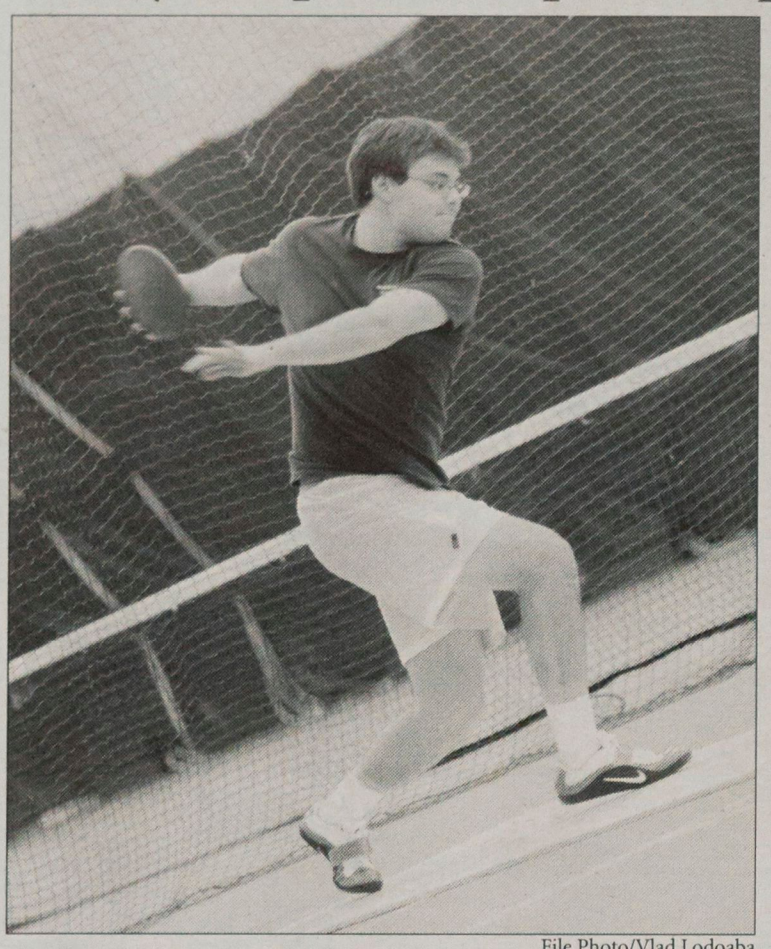
This exhibit, which is being touted as "a landmark exhibition" by the National Gallery, will focus on the movement in its six most important city centers — Zurich, Berlin, Cologne, Hannover, New York and Paris. Over 400 works from between 1916 and 1924 will be featured, including the restored "Fountain" by Duchamp.

The Dada movement came to New York in 1916 and was centered in the gallery of photographer Alfred Stieglitz. Duchamp, Man Ray and painter and poet Francis Picabia were the key players in the American movement.

The exhibit will run from Feburary 19 - May 14 at the National Gallery, and then will travel to MoMa to be exhibited from June 18 - September 11.

Indoor track picks up pace against Catamounts

First-years put on impressive performances as winter season kicks into gear



File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

The indoor track team will travel to Canada this weekend to compete in the McGill Team Challenge, where it will look to continue its strong start.

By Zamir Ahmed
Sports Editor

On Jan. 20, the Middlebury indoor track team traveled north to Burlington to take on the Division I University of Vermont in the team's third meet of the year. Several Panthers continued their strong start to the season, putting up impressive marks as a pair of regional championship meets fast approach.

On the women's side, the team was led by a number of first-years. Rookie Jen Katz '09 took home third place in the 55-meter dash in a school-record time of 7.54 seconds and won the silver in the 200-meter dash with another school-record time of 27.23 seconds. A trio of other first-year sprinters also showed their talent, wrapping up the 1-2-3 spots in the 55-meter hurdles. Emily Coles '09 won the race in 9.38 seconds, followed by teammates Kelley Coughlan '09 in second place and Jennifer Brenes '09 in third. Coughlan added a gold to go with her silver, winning the triple jump with a mark of 10.57 meters.

"The freshmen class is pretty amazing," said Co-Captain Kevin Bright '06. "They work hard, are easy-going and are just nice people who are easy to get along with. I am sure they do not realize they are doing this, but it goes a long way and makes the coaches' and everyone elses' jobs a lot easier."

On the men's side, Pascal Losambe '07 set the tone for the team at the meet, taking home the top prize in two throwing events. Losambe tallied a mark of 11.87 meters in the 35-pound weight throw and 14.00 meters in the shot put, followed by teammate Frank Silva '09 in second place. Bright and Patrick Sedney '08 also won events against the Catamounts. Bright, an All-American last season, crossed the line first in the 400-meter dash with a time of 51.64 seconds, followed by first-year racer Benjamin Fowler in second place. Sedney was the victor in the pole vault, clearing the bar at a height of 3.81 meters to take home the gold.

The Panthers have two more meets in their winter season to qualify for the Division III New England Championships held on Feb. 17-18. A number of Panthers also have a chance to qualify for the ultra-competitive Open New England Championships on Feb. 24-25, a meet that draws some of the top athletes from throughout the region. The team hopes that the next few weeks will help it reach peak form as it heads into the spring outdoor season.

"I am looking for as many more athletes to qualify [for New Englands] in the next meets as possible," said Co-Captain Whitney Creed '06. "I know there are many who are on the edge and these next two meets will be a great time to improve personal records and qualify. This is only the beginning of a very long season, and with all of the hard work eveyone has been putting in at practice I know that times will drop and distances and heights will improve by the spring."

The team seems especially proud of its camraderie, supporting each other as they work towards preparing for the competitive outdoor season. "[The McGill Team Challenge] is pretty exciting because it is a pretty fun meet," said Bright. "It does not get much better than to see one of your teamates reach a goal or win a tough race." With four months still to go in the year, the team hopes to have plenty of opportunities succeed.

Women's squash moves up to 12th

By Michael McCormick
Staff Writer

The women's squash team started 2006 with two impressive wins at the Amherst Invitational on Jan. 14 in their first matches since early December. Ranked 16th in the nation at the time, the Panthers were the underdogs as they took on 11th-ranked Amherst. The team fought its way through the Jeffs, winning the match 5-4. It was the first time that Middlebury women's squash had ever beaten Amherst, and the team was understandably excited about this win.

"The Amherst win was pretty huge," said Kara Zarchin '06. "It was the first time that we've beaten them in the history of women's squash." The Panthers got wins from Zarchin, Caitlin Flint '06, Liz Parker '07, Brooke Farquhar '08, and Avery Tilney '09 to put Amherst away. Tilney and Farquhar won in straight sets, while Parker won in four sets and Zarchin and Flint won in five sets. Katie Hawkins '06 also took her match to five sets, but was unable to win in the end.

The Amherst win was pretty huge. It was the first time we've beaten them in the history of women's squash.
— Kara Zarchin '06

Parker, along with Hannah Baker '07, recently returned to the squash lineup after being abroad for first semester. Their presence should help the team as the women move towards the NESCAC tournament and nationals. "Having them [Parker and Baker] back on the ladder was really nice," said Zarchin.

After pulling the upset over Amherst, the Panthers steamrolled Wesleyan, with Middlebury winning all nine of the matches. Zarchin, Flint, Parker, Farquhar, Tilney, Baker, Hawkins, Sally Hatfield '09 and Caroline Woodworth '09 all had wins against the Cardinals.

The Panthers are focused on winning as many of their remaining matches as they can to keep moving up in the squash rankings. After the big wins against Amherst and Wesleyan, the Panthers are currently ranked 12th in the nation. If they maintain their current ranking, they will be placed into the B flight at the Howe Cup at Harvard in February. The Howe cup is the biggest tournament of the year for the Panthers and the most prestigious trophy in women's collegiate squash. "We want to be in the B division at the Howe Cup and we're ranked there now," said Zarchin. "We've been in the C class the last few years." In the B flight, the Panthers would play teams like Conneticut College, Cornell, Bates, Amherst and Bowdoin.

The Panthers travelled to Vassar on Wednesday to square off against the Brewers. This weekend, they will travel to Smith College and play in the Smith/Mt. Holyoke Invitational, which is the Panthers' last tournament of the year before the NESCAC tournament and the Howe Cup. With their sights set on the B Flight of the Howe Cup one can bet that the Panthers will undoubtedly be bringing their "A" game.

Alpine leads Midd to silver

By Goeff Homer
Staff Writer

Chalk this one up as a victory for Mother Nature. After training for three months before the first race, the Panther alpine team was forced to wait another day. High winds at Sugarloaf Mountain in Maine delayed the Colby Carnival as a tree fell down and destroyed the timing equipment.

Skiing in the pouring rain Saturday afternoon, the women's team put on a show for the ages. After lightning delayed the start of the second run till late afternoon, the women went out and ripped up the course. Last year's NCAA Champion Megan Hughes '08 started the 2006 campaign right where she left off, winning the slalom. With the second fastest Middlebury second run, first-year Mattie Ford finished fourth in her first collegiate carnival. Co-Captain Lindsay Brush '06 rounded out the top three with a ninth place finish.

On Sunday, the start of the giant slalom was delayed until 1:30 P.M. because of 90 mile-per-hour winds at the top of Sugarloaf. After race officials decided to make the event a one-run race, Brush tore up the course for third place, while Krissy Poehling '08 was right behind in fourth. Tucker Burton '09 finished in 14th position. Unfortunately, there was only one run so the skiers could not improve on their standings. Captain Andrew Everett '07 commented, "We were perfectly positioned to have a ridiculously good day with great start positions for the second run, but it was only a one-run race."

Unfortunately, the men didn't experience the same success as the women in the slalom. After placing three skiers in the top 10 and five in the top 20 after the first run, the guys became victims to Mother Nature and deteriorating course conditions in the second run as all five crashed and were forced to hike. According to Coach Forest Carey, "It was crazy."

In Sunday's giant slalom, Captain Dave Coriell '06 led the Panthers with a seventh place finish, with Everett behind in 14th and first-year Andrew Wagner in 16th.

Despite the challenges presented by the weather, the team finished second overall behind UVM. The Panthers hope to forget the events of the past weekend and look forward to the St. Lawrence carnival. As Coriell said, "The alpine girls are skiing really well right now. It was a little disappointing for the guys, I think we are skiing much better than our results this weekend demonstrated and hopefully we can step it up this weekend and bring back a victory."

Courtesy/ Athletic Communications

Lindsay Brush '06 finished ninth in the slalom to help Midd grab second place at last weekend's Colby Carnival.

Nordic skiers blaze trail

By Brooke Farquahr
Staff Writer

Middlebury's nordic ski team began its season with a strong statement, finishing second overall at the Colby Carnival this past weekend in Sugarloaf, Maine. Overall, the Panthers alpine and nordic teams combined to finish second at the meet, falling behind only the University of Vermont. The team's success stemmed from a combination of outstanding individual performances and overall team talent.

The women's nordic team finished third in the sprint and second in the 15k competitions, and the men's nordic team finished first in both the sprint and 20k. The men's first place finishes were especially impressive with the absence of skier Matt Johnson '08, who is currently in Europe preparing to compete in the World Junior Championship.

Coach Terry Aldrich commented that based on the weak snow conditions, the skiers were "lucky to have raced at all" and attributes the Panthers' success to a "combination of talented skiers and hard work." Two first-year skiers proved their talent over the weekend. Cassidy Edwards '09 placed fifth in the women's sprint and Tom Reynolds '09 finished second in the Men's Sprint in what was said to be a "phenomenal first race," according to Aldrich.

Perhaps the most impressive contribution to the team's strong finish, however, was that of Beau Baldock '07. Baldock, having dislocated his shoulder two weeks ago, is awaiting surgery. He somehow ignored his injury, competed over the weekend and astoundingly won the qualifying round of the Sprint and finished third overall.

The accomplishments of the team over the weekend are numerous as Aldrich also commented that Senior Co-Captain Jake Whitcomb '06 had "one of the best races of his college career." The Panthers are hoping the snow conditions will improve as they prepare to compete this weekend at the St. Lawrence Carnival.

Senior co-captain Donovan Dums '06 noted that despite amazing individual performances, the Panthers' overall success spoke to the strength of the team. "Cross country skiing is an individual sport, but being able to come together as a team and push each other is something that I believe we have done very well this year," he said. "It was the perfect beginning to the season."

The Panthers will have the chance to build off of their performance in Maine at the St. Lawrence Carnival on Jan. 27-28. The nordic team will look to help the Panthers knock off the Catamounts from the top of the standings and stay ahead of rival Dartmouth. The team has already improved on last year's performance when it took third at all six of its carnivals. This year, only one spot stands in the way of taking home the trophy.

Courtesy Trent Campbell/The Addison Independent

Claire Anderson '06 and the nordic ski team looked impressive at the Colby Carnival. The Panthers next race is this weekend's St. Lawrence Carnival.

ABA promotes regional rivalries

The Frost Heaves will begin play in Fall 2006 in the minor league ABA.

Continued from page 28

willing to help people in Vermont have been," said Wolff. He also noted that several fans outside the state have been supportive, offering to donate season tickets to a local Boys and Girls Club in one instance. "It's kids who will be sitting in our millionaire's row," said Wolff.

With kids on the sidelines and team slogans that proclaim, "Stop by our hardwood on a snowy evening" and "We're gonna be the bump in their road," the Frost Heaves plan to keep the fun in the game. But according to Wolff, the team will be professional — in the Vermont way. "There's certain bases that we have to cover seriously, and as we cover those bases it will liberate us to take a little more puckish approach," he said, "Obviously just the name of the team shows that we're not taking ourselves completely seriously, and that's what minor league sports are. We're mom-and-pop business, not big business."

Looking forward to the next few months, Wolff said that the most immediate Frost Heaves plans include "to raise capital to fund the team and then hire a coach. Then we'll work on putting together our roster and game schedule." He predicts that a coach will be chosen in the springtime and that try-outs will be held during late summer into early fall. "We're not going to limit our recruiting to just Vermont, but preference will be given to players with local connections," said Wolff.

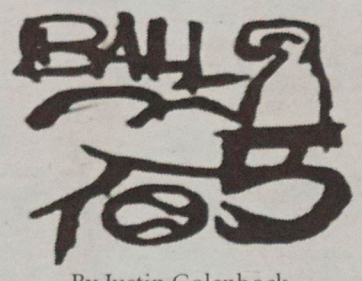
Sporting an official Frost Heaves sweatshirt, Wolff most recently brought his message about the new team to the J-Term course, "Coaching Young Athletes," which is co-taught by Dee Rowe '52 and Head Men's Hockey Coach Bill Beaney. Rowe, who is the former men's basketball coach at University of Connecticut, said of Wolff, "He is a brilliant intellect who has an incredible passion for basketball. He's a delightful guy who is captured by the mission to bring a pro basketball team to Vermont. He's traveled the world, and now he's bringing the world to Barre."

"I have every hope and expectation that he'll make it very successful," said Rowe, who has also put himself on the list for a Frost Heaves T-shirt and who hopes to attend the team's opening game.

For more information about the Frost Heaves or to purchase merchandise or tickets, visit www.

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week:	*Zamir Ahmed*	*Tom McCann*	*Ryan W. Reese*
Plain and simple: Steelers or Seahawks?	SEAHAWKS Seattle has the potent offense and stiff defense to finally cool off the AFC champs.	STEELERS Is this a joke? They've already knocked off the best three records in the AFC. Big Ben will be heard.	STEELERS I'm going with the Steelers. The Bus will be unstoppable in his very own Detroit Motor City.
Will the women's hockey team remain undefeated through this weekend's NESCAC road trip?	YES Call it intuition. Call it a guess. Or call it that's what my Magic 8-ball says.	YES They'll be unbeaten this weekend and when they pick up their next rings too. March on ladies.	YES Bowdoin will be raucous and looking for revenge, but Kogut and the crew will keep it together.
Will the ski team win one of its next three carnivals (St. Lawrence, Dartmouth and UVM)?	NO It's not that they don't have the talent to win. It's just that they don't have the snow to race on.	NO UVM are just that good. We'd clean up if UVM forgot their skis, but that doesn't happen often.	NO They were third at *every* carnival last year. There's no snow. I'm going to have to say no.
All-Time Record:	**6 - 6 (.500)**	**9 - 3 (.750)**	**7 - 5 (.583)**



By Justin Golenbock

First, I wanted to write about the World Baseball Classic and how embarrassing and ridiculous it would be if we scuttled the whole thing by refusing to let Cuba play in the States for whatever economic reasons, but Jim Caple did a much better job of it for espn.com, and then the Treasury Department caved anyway and announced Cuba could play, all of this of course playing out while I sat on my ass playing Madden, waiting for my next *Campus* deadline. Ah well…at least Ronnie Brown's overall rating jumped six points in his rookie year. And if you know what that last sentence means, my friends pity you.

Next, I realized rather belatedly that the Winter Olympics are starting over break and I figured, hey, I'm a sports columnist, maybe I should write about that. Now I don't really watch the Olympics, and rumor has it that the Arrested Development season finale is on the night of opening ceremonies, but it shouldn't really be a hard topic to write about: Canada will be good at hockey, super crazy Austrian skiers will take horribly entertaining falls at 1,000mph, and Bob Costas will spend six hours attempting to explain the rules of curling, when the only people who care are the ones actually playing curling (do you "play" curling? Or do you just "curl?").

So I may not be much of an "authority" on the topic (it's a little inside joke with us journalist types), but I can make fun of something I don't understand or appreciate as well as the next guy, so here's why I'm excited about the Winter Olympics.

Lets say I'm watching…oh… the skeleton. I don't know anything about the skeleton, but when Googled, the phrase "Skeleton Olympic Preview" gives a first hit that describes the sport as "riding a sled down an icy track…face first… at speeds as fast as 80mph." So, basically everything your mother warned you not to do as a kid, and maybe the stupidest athletic event you could voluntarily compete in, next to bull riding. Who needs Nascar when people willingly face shoot off sleds at 80mph? Promising television.

On the other hand, we have female figure skating, supposedly the highest rated Olympic event, which I find hard to believe. Can we all agree that there's something inherently creepy about a sport that forces parents to deprive their kids of any social upbringing until they hit the athletic peak of their training at age 15? Shouldn't we take a hint from Qatar and outlaw this, inventing more graceful robots to spin our axles and lutzes instead?

Lastly, there's hockey, which I'll watch if only because the Bruins suck. And probably there are a few more sports too, but for a journalist who is such an authority, it's easier to be flippant than to pretend they don't exist. But honestly, what else are you going to do the first month of "spring" term, study? So go watch, you may find a few sports you enjoy as much as I enjoy the skeleton.

Skaters dominating run continues

Middlebury makes quick work of #5 St. Thomas, rolls to 14-0-0

File Photo/Albert Bitici

The Panthers will be in Maine this weekend to take on Colby and Bowdoin, two teams in hot pursuit in the NESCAC.

By James Kerrigan
Staff Writer

The women's hockey team started 2006 just like they ended 2005 — by winning, a lot. January has given the Panthers seven opponents and seven victories. In the midst of a 20-game win streak going back to the end of last season, the women are dominating competition from all over the country.

The year '06 began with a 6-0 win in the team's first ever encounter with St. Anselm College. Morton Grove, Ill. native, Karen Levin '08, was in the groove on Jan. 3 as she lit the lamp on two occasions and set up three more goals. Senior co-captain Kate Kogut stopped all nine St. Anselm shots and earned her first shutout of the season.

Returning home for a weekend of NESCAC action, Middlebury once again proved why they are the defending National Champions and the team to beat. On Jan. 6, Middlebury's first-year forward Annmarie Cellino scored the game's first goal with an assist from Shannon Tarrant '07 before Bowdoin took a 2-1 lead in the second period. But the Polar Bear's lead lasted only 2:31 as Erika Nakamura '09 netted the equalizer. Emily Quizon '06 banged home the go-ahead goal late in the second frame and Ellen Sargent '07 added an insurance goal in the third.

On Saturday, Jan. 7, the Panthers squared off against the Mules from Colby. Although the Mules were only two spots behind Middlebury in the NESCAC standings, they looked a long way from being able to keep up with the Panthers. After netting the opening goal, the Colby defense watched Middlebury score seven unanswered goals on 37 shots. Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07 scored two goals and added two helpers on the night. According to Coach Mandigo, "her offensive productivity has been exceptional." She was matched by Shannon Sylvester '07 who also had two goals and two assists. Cellino '09, Quizon '06, and Liz Yale-Loehr '06 scored the final three goals while Levin '09 contributed two assists.

Jan. 12 saw the country's ninth-ranked Wisconsin-River Falls come to town. Despite outshooting Wisconsin 32-14, the Panthers were taken into overtime with the score 2-2, but the tie didn't last long. Just 36 seconds in, the Panthers scored the game-winner on a power play which began late in the third period. Tarrant took a shot from the left point that was redirected into the net by Kurtz-Phelan from the right side of the slot.

Over the next three games, Middlebury unleashed 147 shots, including 99 over a two-day span against NESCAC's Wesleyan. Middlebury beat Wesleyan 4-1 on Saturday, Jan. 14, then again on Sunday by the same margin (3-0). Nakamura scored thee goals in the double header, while Kurtz-Phelan added wo more. Sophomore Angie Todd earned her second shutout of the season on Sunday.

Middlebury then faced the Tommies from St. Thomas who came into the contest ranked number five in the country. With two undefeated teams battling, something had to give, and it did – early. Nineteen seconds into the contest, Emily McNamara '07 banged home the puck on the doorstep after Cellino's high shot bounced downward. The Panthers struck early, and never looked back. They fired 48 shots and converted on three of them. Cellino contributed on all three goals as Quizon added a goal and an assist. In the end, Middlebury earned their 20th consecutive victory and established themselves as the only unbeaten team in women's college hockey (in both Division I and III of the NCAA).

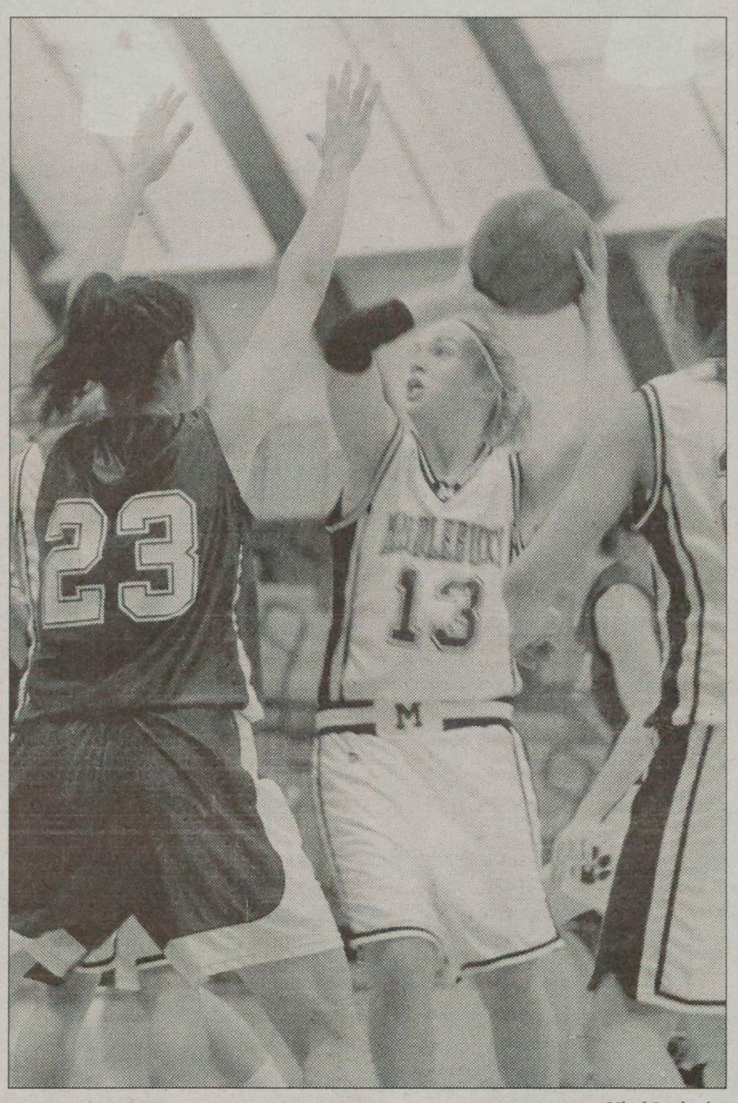
The unbeaten streak is a non-factor to the team. Says Mandigo, "I don't think the record is a distraction. I think we are playing game-to-game and only concentrating on the next game. Our goals are always the same — get better each practice and play to the best of our ability in every game."

By the Numbers

By Jeff Patterson, Staff Writer

8	Goals allowed by goalkeeper Kate Kogut in five NESCAC games this season, giving her a GAA of 1.77
8	Women's hockey players in double figures in points this year
8	Men's hockey players in double figures in points this year
8	First-years on this year's men's hockey team. The men have combined to score 21 goals, more than a quarter of the team's 77
8	Wins needed by the Middlebury men's hockey team to finish the regular season undefeated
8	Days remaining until February recess, (and I thought J-Term was awesome)

In The Thick Of It



Vlad Lodoaba

Battling against Bates at home, Micaela McVary '06 steps into heavy traffic to knock down two points in the Panthers' 73-60 loss on Jan. 20.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

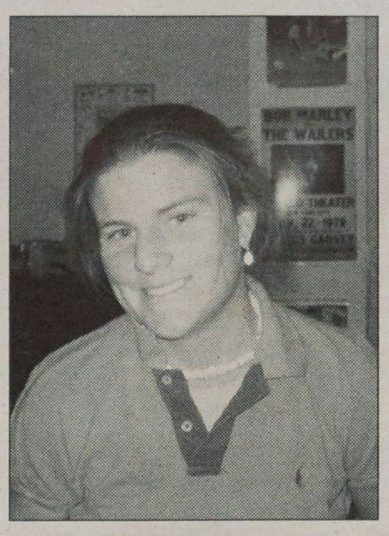
Shannon Tarrant '07 talks hockey with us...

***The Campus:* When did you start playing hockey?**

Shannon Tarrant: Umm, I started skating when I was three and didn't start organized hockey until I was in third grade. I played with the boys until seventh grade and it was really fun. Then, I played with girls and boys during middle school. In high school, I just played with girls. I went to the Hotchkiss School in Connecticut and I absolutely loved it. I actually want to go back and work there some day. Oh…my dad actually coached me there my freshman year. That was a lot of fun too.

***Campus:* Why did you come to Middlebury?**

ST: When I was sophomore, I met Coach [Bill] Mandigo and loved him. It's always been important to me to have a good coach. I mean I've only had two other coaches and one of them was my dad. [She laughs.] I wanted to come to a small school in country and when I got here I knew it was right. My recruiting visit was awesome and I stayed with Kate Kogut and Gloria Velez. It was great to see how close their relationship was and I knew that was exactly what I wanted.



***Campus:* Your college career hasn't been that bad with two National Championship and probably a third…**

ST: Knock on wood…

***Campus:* With that kind of success, what goals do you set for yourself at the beginning of each season?**

ST: We actually write out our goals before each season. We always want to have more fun than the year before and want the team chemistry to be better than ever. A lot of it's on ice, but so much is off the ice and preseason. Stuff like how many plyos, how many stadiums can you do. We want to win a NESCAC title since we lost it freshman year and we want to be the best team we can be. I really don't think we've done that yet this year.

***Campus:* 14-0-0 so far this year. Do you think you can go the distance undefeated?**

ST: Well I mean, um…we try not to use the word undefeated. [She laughs.] We have the strongest team I've ever been a part of. We have a lot of potential and an unbelievable goalie. The team has a ton of great seniors and amazing leaders. We have the makings of a very good team. We're playing Bowdoin on their ice this weekend and it'll be packed. That will be pretty intense. I guess we'll see. [She pauses.] I hope so.

***Campus:* You guys seem like a pretty close team. Who has the weirdest pre-game routine?**

ST: Ohh…Ok. There's a couple. Emily Quizon ['06], she's absolutely amazing. She always has to juggle some tennis balls or something and she has to play with a soccer ball. I guess that's not that weird, but between Abby Kurtz-Phelan ['07], Mac [Emily MacNamara '07] and Shannon Sylvester ['07], they always have these little army guys on the bench. They keep them there all the time. I don't know. That's pretty weird to me.

***Campus:* Do you have any superstitions yourself?**

ST: I always have to walk around the third floor of Kenyon. Like above the basketball courts. I go with one of the faculty's kids — it's usually Mandigo's daughter. We just walk around and play little kids games.

***Campus:* Do you have any songs that you listen to before you hit the ice?**

ST: Um…I'm kind of weird and I like to talk to people a lot before the games. It's usually not anybody on the team because they're all pretty intense. I'm always hanging out with little kids, but I am in charge of the remote for the music during pregame. Most of the songs are upbeat and fun. Nothing really intense like AC/DC or other hardcore stuff. "I'm In a Hurry to Get Things Done?" Do you know that one? I always listen to that before I head down to the rink, I guess.

***Campus:* Which NESCAC team is your favorite opponent and why?**

ST: Williams always gives us a great game and I respect that team a lot. They always have their "A" game and push us to bring ours as well. I love their rink as well. It's a known fact that we hate Bowdoin though. We all hate Bowdoin. It's always our biggest game of the season and it always seems to come down to them and us for the NESCAC championship. Those games are always really fun to be involved in.

***Campus:* Are there any teams that you don't look forward to playing against?**

ST: I mean...this year the NESCAC had been up and down against everyone. I didn't really look forward to play against Wesleyan this year. Last year they were the worst team in the league and we killed 'em. We had a double header against them and I didn't really want to drive all the way down to Connecticut for a bad game. They actually played us pretty tough, but I would have to say that it's harder to get excited about playing the least competitive teams in the league.

***Campus:* What stick do you use?**

ST: I use a rubber. Yep…a TPS Rubber. As you can imagine, there are some great comments that come from that. Yeah, I get kind of nervous when it breaks. [She laughs.] And Harrow. They make good sticks too. Those two are my favorite but I've used a TPS rubber since sophomore year in high school, I think.

***Campus:* How many do you think you break over the course of a season?**

ST: Both of my sticks are two pieces because Mandigo won't let me use a one piece. I break probably eight blades a season and maybe two shafts. Wow…the best one was the first day of the season. I was skating pretty hard pretending like I was a great player. I went around the back of the net and got my stick caught up. My stick got shoved into me and it cut my stomach and that was the first blade I broke this year. Yeah…It was a great way to start a season.

***Campus:* Who's your favorite NHL player?**

ST: Bobby Orr. I'm obsessed with Bobby Orr and I want to be just like him when I grow up. And current, well…I'm a big New York Rangers fan. I have a New York Rangers outfit that I wear around all the time. It's pretty cute. I'm a big Brian Leetch fan even thought he's not with the team anymore. From the Rangers now, I like [Darius] Kasparitis.

***Campus:* Are you excited to see how the U.S. women's team does in Italy?**

ST: Ahh yeah…I cant wait! I've played with three of the girls on the team. Kaitlin Kahow was my defense partner in high school and I played against another two while I was at Hotchkiss. Kahow's an amazing athlete in all the sports she plays. She's at Harvard right now and I'm really excited to watch her. I played against probably six others in Olympic Development Program when I was younger and my dad coached two of the girls on the current team as well. I'm really excited.

— Ryan Reese, Sports Editor

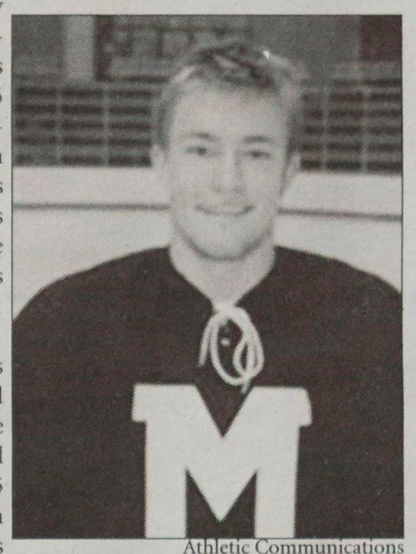
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	*Sport*	*Vs.*	*Result*	*Comments*
1/20 1/21	Men's Hockey	St. Anselm N.E.C.	3-0 3-1	Defending champs unbeaten through 16.
1/20 1/21	Men's Basketball	Bates Tufts	47-69 63-80	Hoopsters sit at 11-6 after splitting pair.
1/20 1/21	Women's Basketball	Bates Tufts	60-73 57-53	Panthers need overtime in win over Jumbos.
1/21	Women's Swim/Dive	Union	210-90	Swimmers face-off against Williams next

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY ZAMIR AHMED AND RYAN REESE, SPORTS EDITORS

Gilchrist '08 skates to POTW



Athletic Communications

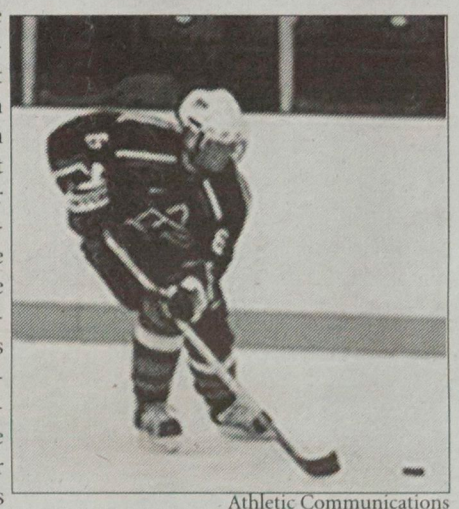
Middlebury forward Mickey Gilchrist '08 was named the NESCAC Player of the Week for men's hockey for the week of Jan. 10-16 after tallying six goals and an assist to lead the Panthers to wins in three NESCAC games. Gilchrist's hot hand carried over into this past weekend as he scored three goals and notched three assists as the Panthers improved to 15-0-1 with two tough wins.

On Jan. 10, with the Panthers down 2-0 to Williams in the second period, Gilchrist kick-started the Middlebury offense and notched his first goal of the game at 11:35 of the frame. He also added an empty-net goal with eight seconds to go in the game as the Panthers came from behind to win 5-2. On Jan. 13, Gilchrist again opened the Panthers' scoring, this time against Colby with a goal in the first period to give the team a 1-0 lead. He later added a power-play goal in the third period as the Panthers cruised to a 6-2 victory. The following day saw Gilchrist add a goal and an assist to the Panthers' 9-1 steamroll over Bowdoin.

Gilchrist continued his offensive explosion on Jan. 20 against New England College. Gilchrist had a hand on all of the Panthers' goals, netting two goals and an assist in a 3-0 victory. On Jan. 21, Gilchrist again got in on the Panthers' offense, scoring the game-winning goal and assisting on two others as Middlebury beat St. Anselm 3-1.

Gilchrist currently has 11 goals and 13 assists on the season to lead the Panthers with 24 points. He sits in third place in the NESCAC in both points and goals scored.

U.S. hockey team visits Kenyon



Athletic Communications

On Monday, Jan. 16, the United States women's national ice hockey team paid a visit to Middlebury's own Kenyon Arena. The team had been on a tour of exhibition games that served as solid preparation for the upcoming Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy. They were up in Vermont in order to face off against the Green Mountain Glades, a midget boy's team. The game was well-attended as nearly 1,000 spectators filled the stands for the early afternoon contest. Rather than charging admission, fans were asked to bring canned goods in order to replenish the Addison Country food shelf.

As it turns out, Vermont's own Glades beat the women's team by a score of 8-6. They were powered by four third period goals and two goals from Taylor Juneau. Natalie Darwitz led the charge for the United States as she knocked in a goal while ringing up two assists. Team captain, Krissy Wendell scored one of her own and assisted on another.

This was the last tune-up game for the Olympians before the team was scheduled to depart for Italy later this month. The team looked ready for action as its skating looked sharp and its power-play was nearly unstoppable. The team is definitely a medal contender and some consider the women to be favorites to win the gold. Their main challengers, as always, will be their neighbors to the north. In Nagano, the first Olympic Games to feature women's hockey, the U.S. took the gold while the Canadians stole the show in Salt Lake City. With the opening ceremonies set for Feb. 10, our eyes will be focused on the small Italian town and the nation's top competitors.

Midd to host cheer competition

On Sunday, Feb. 19, Middlebury College will play host to the inaugural Midd Extreme Cheerleading and Dance Team Competition. The competition is being organized by the Middlebury Co-Ed Competitive Cheerleading Team, which will perform an exhibition routine during the day but will not be competing.

The event is expected to draw teams from all over New England, with competitions in a number of dance categories for all age groups and ability levels. The event is expected to draw over 1,000 competitors, with the main event running from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. in Pepin Gymnasium. The doors will open at 9 A.M. on the morning of the competition and tickets are $5 per person.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY | **MIDD SKATERS STAY UNBEATEN AND UNTIED THROUGH 14 GAMES**| 26

TRACK AND FIELD | **FIRST-YEARS PERFORM WELL AT UVM INVITATIONAL**| 25

GAMES TO WATCH

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. WILLIAMS
JAN. 28 | 2:00 P.M.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. TRINITY
FEB. 3 | 7:00 P.M.

campus sports

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2006

Swimmers steamroll Union and Hamilton

Pivotal meet against NESCAC rival Williams looms ahead for Panthers

By George Mayer
Staff Writer

The Middlebury men's swimming and diving team has been red hot thus far this J-Term. Over the past three weekends, the Panther squad has posted wins over NESCAC rivals Hamilton, Colby and Bates, as well as Union. While Union proved to be no match for the Panthers this past weekend, posting only 88 points to Middlebury's 210, the meets on the previous two weekends were somewhat more competitive. While Bates proved to be their toughest test, the team still managed to outscore the Bobcats 146-108 on the day.

Men's Swimming & Diving
Saturday, January 21

Middlebury	210
Union	88

First-year Zach Woods has been a standout performer for the Panthers throughout their successful J-Term run. On Jan. 8 against Colby and Bates, Woods set four different pool records. As Peter Bell '08 states, "Zach has continued to outperform all expectations we had for him as a freshman." During last Saturday's meet against Union, Woods broke the 100 meter IM pool record, however, last year's national qualifier Rob Collier '07 broke the record by an even greater margin than Woods did. Collier has provided a great deal of flexibility and depth to the Panthers and it remains to be seen which relays he will compete in down the home stretch.

While the Panthers have been dominant the last three weekends, this coming Saturday they are set to face off against the toughest competition they will see all year in the Ephs of Williams. Bell and senior co-captain Alex Demas '06 refer to the Williams team as an "absolute powerhouse."

Both Bell and Demas believe Williams has an excellent shot at winning the NCAA National Championship this year and dethroning the Kenyon College team that has won the NCAA title the last 26 years. To compete with the Ephs, the Middlebury men know they are going to have be performing at their top level.

Knowing the amount of talent Williams has this season, the Panthers hope to repeat their second place finish at the NESCAC tournament from a year ago. In order to do so they are going to have to beat out Tufts and Amherst again. The Panther squad was able to beat Amherst both in season and at the NESCAC tournament last year, which was quite an accomplishment considering the Lord Jeffs typically post a strong team. This weekend's meet at Williams as well as the Middlebury Invite the following weekend should help to prepare the team for another solid performance at the NESCAC Championship, to be held on Feb. 24-26.

Vlad Lodoaba

Tristram Arscott '06 won two diving events in the Panthers' 173-109 win over Hamilton and 210-88 win over Union.

Frost Heaves to bring ABA to Barre, Vermont

Courtesy MICHAEL LEBRECHT II/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED-

Alexander Wolff, a senior writer for Sports Illustrated, is the founder, president, and general manager of Vermont's newest minor league team.

By Andrea M. LaRocca
Associate Editor

No longer just a winter frustration, frost heaves are enjoying newfound fame as the namesake of Vermont's first pro basketball team. On Dec. 14, 2005, Alexander Wolff, a senior writer at *Sports Illustrated (SI)* and a Cornwall, Vt. resident, unveiled his plans for the state's newest minor league team, the Frost Heaves, at a press conference in Barre, Vt. One day earlier, Wolff also announced the team's birth in an *SI* article entitled "Scorecard: Heaves, Ho!," which featured a playful illustration of Wolff wearing a furry bomber hat and waving a foam "Go Heaves" finger.

Wolff is the president and general manager of the Frost Heaves, and his wife Vanessa is the assistant general manager. In the five weeks since the press conference, the Wolffs have devoted themselves to the founding and publicizing of the upstart team, and the Frost Heaves already have an extensive Web site and merchandise line. "Rather than a basketball team right now, we essentially have a T-shirt line," joked Wolff.

The Frost Heaves will compete in the American Basketball Association (ABA), and the team's first season will begin in early November 2006 and last until early March 2007. The season consists of 36 games, 18 of which will be played at home. According to Wolff, the Frost Heaves will play in two "lovely old historic gyms in Vermont downtowns," the Barre Municipal Auditorium, a vintage Depression-era court better known as "the Aud," and the Memorial Auditorium in Burlington. Each gym seats about 1,500 fans, and Wolff hopes that each court will get equal playing time, with half the home games played in Barre and the other half played in Burlington.

Equally important as the basketball that will be played, however, is the Frost Heaves' overarching mission. Wolff said that the team will be "run by Vermonters for Vermonters," and he is molding the team in the shape of Vermont values, such as sustainability and local and community connections. Accordingly, Wolff hopes to market locally produced concessions at the games and to focus on minimizing the team's carbon offsets.

Wolff also plans to innovatively integrate the Frost Heaves with the Internet. Fans who join an online community, "The Bump in the Road Club," will receive regular updates about the status of the team and will eventually be able to affect team decisions through voting. Said Wolff, "It will be like a reality series with a participatory democracy piece built in." He will also continue to chronicle the Frost Heaves' evolution via the Frost Heaves website and SI.com.

"We're trying to meld the old Vermont — as in the historic downtown gyms we will play in — with the new Vermont — as in the high-tech development and Internet that Burlington is known for. We're using the team as a way to demonstrate what's possible in Vermont," said Wolff.

Overall, Wolff said that the reaction from Vermonters and from basketball fans across the country has been encouraging. "It was essentially on a whim that I conceived the idea to start a basketball team, and then I had to fill in the reality of it and figure out how it could work in Vermont," said Wolff, who first daydreamed about a Vermont hoops team over a year ago. "It's in the realm of possibility. The venues are here, the scale is here, the tradition of basketball is indeed here and there's a track record of success for minor league sports in Vermont." Wolff has been in contact with the Vermont Voltage, the state's minor league soccer team, and the Lake Monsters, the state's minor league baseball team, as well as the University of Vermont and the Vermont Basketball Association.

"It's been very gratifying how

See ABA, page 25